

Wrestling
REVUE
OFFICIAL RATINGS
PAGE 59
N.W.A., A.W.A., W.W.W.F., N.W.F.
WOMEN, MIDGETS, TAG TEAMS

THE WORLD'S LARGEST SELLING WRESTLING MAGAZINE

Wrestling REVUE

JUNE ,74

75¢

45 P.



47956

**SAMMARTINO'S NIGHTMARE:
BEATING CLOSE FRIEND
MORALES TO PROVE
HE'S REALLY CHAMP**



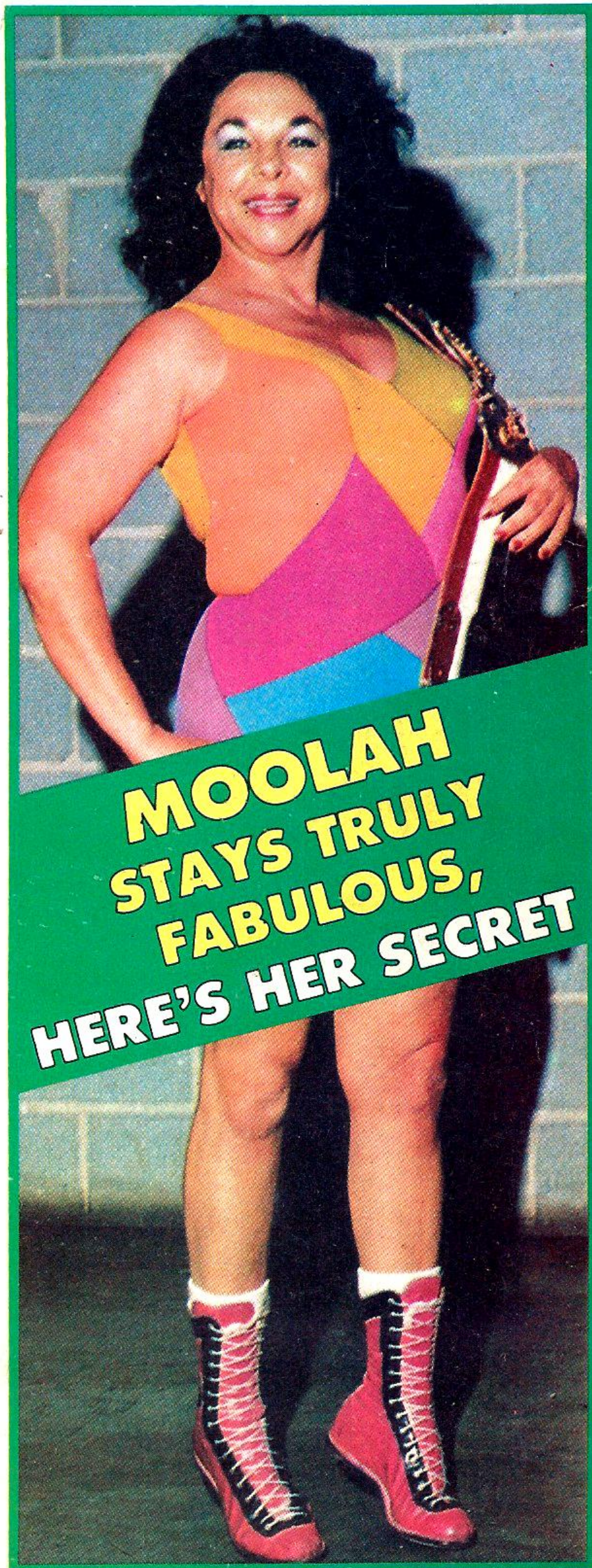
17 LBS OVERWEIGHT AND WORRIED?

**HERE'S HOW A
500 POUNDER
CARES FOR
HIS HEALTH**

**WILD
DOGS
DOWN UNDER
PUT
BARK IN
DINGO**

The Sundowner
(Les Roberts)

**- A COMPLETE RECAP -
JR. HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE
TURNOVERS FROM 1934 TO 1974**



**MOOLAH
STAYS TRULY
FABULOUS,
HERE'S HER SECRET**

THE WORLD'S LARGEST WRESTLING MAGAZINE

Wrestling

REVUE

VOLUME 15, NO. 6, JUNE, 1974

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Editorial — Responsibility of Wrestlers, Fans	By Jack Welsh 8
Readers' Pros and Cons	10
Why Sammartino Must Fight Morales Again?	By Jack Welsh 11
Black Gordman Hits Rivera With Chair	By Phillip M. Miller 16
Junior Heavyweight Title Turnovers	By Jack Welsh 21
Here's What Keeps Moolah Really Fabulous	By Jack Welsh 26
Larry Zbyszko Can't Miss Stardom	By Gilda Diradoo 31
Wrestling Pin Up (Tony Marino)	34
Action On The West Coast	By Allan Bolte 36
J.B. Psycho Grew Up With Chickens, Beat Bear	by Todd Jones 40
Here's What It's Like To Weigh 500 pounds	by Etienne Pilon 42
Little Boy Blue Blows Own Horn	by Allan Bolte 47
International Mat-O-Rama	50
Chief White Cloud Quits Medicine For Mat	by Gene Gordon 55
Wild Dogs Put Bark in Les Roberts	By Etienne Pilon 57
Wrestling Ratings	59
Know Your Holds	63
Where Is He Today?	64

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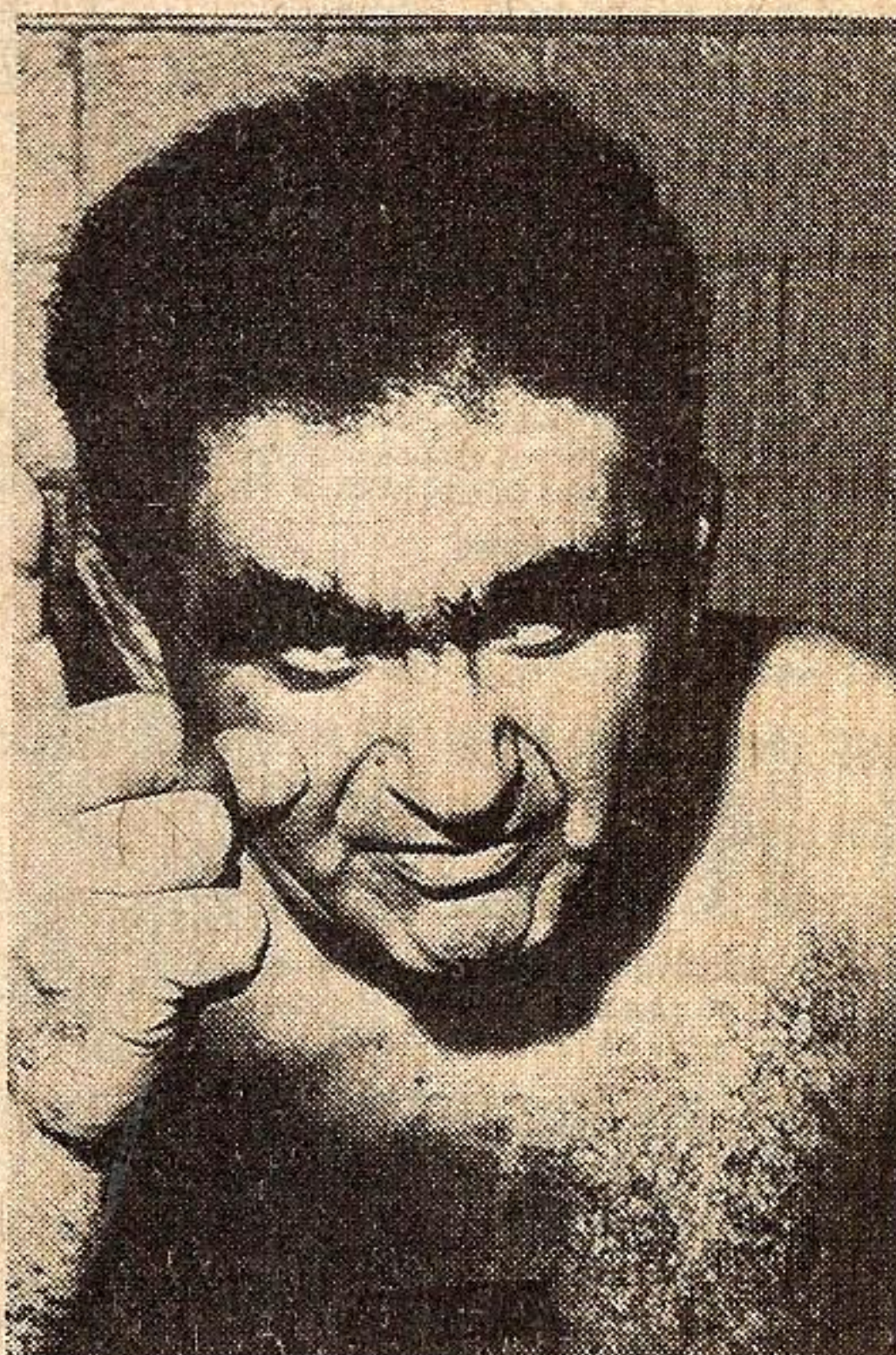
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IN OUR NEXT ISSUE

...It has often been said it is hard to keep a good man down but when it comes to a wild man like Bull Curry it is even tougher. In the July issue of WRESTLING REVUE, we will bring you an inside story on a controversial suspension of Bull Curry for conduct unbecoming a ... wrestler which incidentally is nothing new for the Bull...And there will be another interesting feature on why Larry Hennig has turned on Verne Gagne — the man who gave him his start in pro wrestling ... And of course, there will be Action on the West Coast plus International Mat-O-Rama, Know Your Holds and Where Is He Today? Don't miss our midsummer spectacular...



WRESTLING REVUE is not responsible for loss or return of unsolicited manuscripts or photographs. It is suggested that contributing authors first submit a story outline rather than the completed manuscript plus return postage.

Important Notice

Due to the tremendous volume of mail we receive we can no longer give personal answers to inquiries. In the future we will select the most important letters and answer them if necessary in "Readers' Pros and Cons".

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editorial

BY JACK WELSH

What is the responsibility of wrestlers to the fans and fans to the wrestlers?

The very nature of pro wrestling means violence — sometimes in and out of the ring.

It doesn't take much to touch off a riot among the patrons if a particular villain is delivering mayhem to the local hero.

However, the promoter also has some responsibility in governing the actions of the wrestlers he employs.

We are not talking about the heated confrontations in the ring but wrestlers who provoke spectators to such a frenzied pitch the fans lose all composure and jump up into the ring to do battle.

This can be only disaster for all concerned. Naturally, the wrestler will defend himself and sometimes his defense is against weapons other than fists.

If the fan is seriously injured, the promoter and the wrestler in question face a lawsuit which could lead to the suspension of both parties.

There is no question many of the top names in the sport today believe their own press clippings when they are dubbed as "villains". And the advent of TV wrestling gives the wrestler another avenue to excite the fans long before they pay their way into an arena.

Some of the big fellows' contemptible comments regarding future opponents are worthy of an Academy Award but it is used to stimulate the box-office action and, after all, that is what it is all about.

Any sensible promoter reserves the right to eject any patrons who have shown a tendency to incite the spectators into physical retaliation against a wrestler.

And once they spot such people of erratic behavior the ban should be permanent — protecting the person from himself as well as others involved.

Once an irate fan loses all control he forgets the physical prowess of the man he is attacking. The man — women usually stay outside the ring swinging an umbrella — could weigh 275 pounds but unless he is

such ferocity that the woman allegedly lost her balance and fell to the floor.

The Bruiser intended no harm to the lady but when it finally went to court, she emerged as the winner with a settlement of several thousand dollars.

A Responsibility Wrestlers and Fans Must Share

a trained wrestler, he is simply inviting disaster.

However, the wrestlers don't always escape unscathed. There was the time when a fan attacked Black Jack Mulligan with a broken beer bottle and inflicted a 20-inch gash in his leg.

Kurt and Karl Von Brauner were assaulted during a tag match in Tennessee by four soldiers and two civilians who took exception to the way they were illegally roughing up their opponents.

Kurt and Karl were outnumbered but obviously not overmatched. The Germans tore off their attackers' clothes and left them standing at mid-ring in their shorts. One soldier had a broken arm and several others had teeth knocked out. There was no court action since the GIs reportedly provoked the fracas.

It doesn't always turn out that way when a case goes to court. Back in 1959 Dick The Bruiser was in a match at the Cincinnati Gardens and during the heated action, The Bruiser was tossed out of the ring by his adversary.

Dick went berserk and suddenly grabbed an elderly woman in a wheelchair. He shook the chair with

Buddy Rogers, a former N.W.A. world's heavyweight champion, use to have a gimmick to get fans into the act, offering \$500 to anyone who could get out of his punishing figure four leg lock.

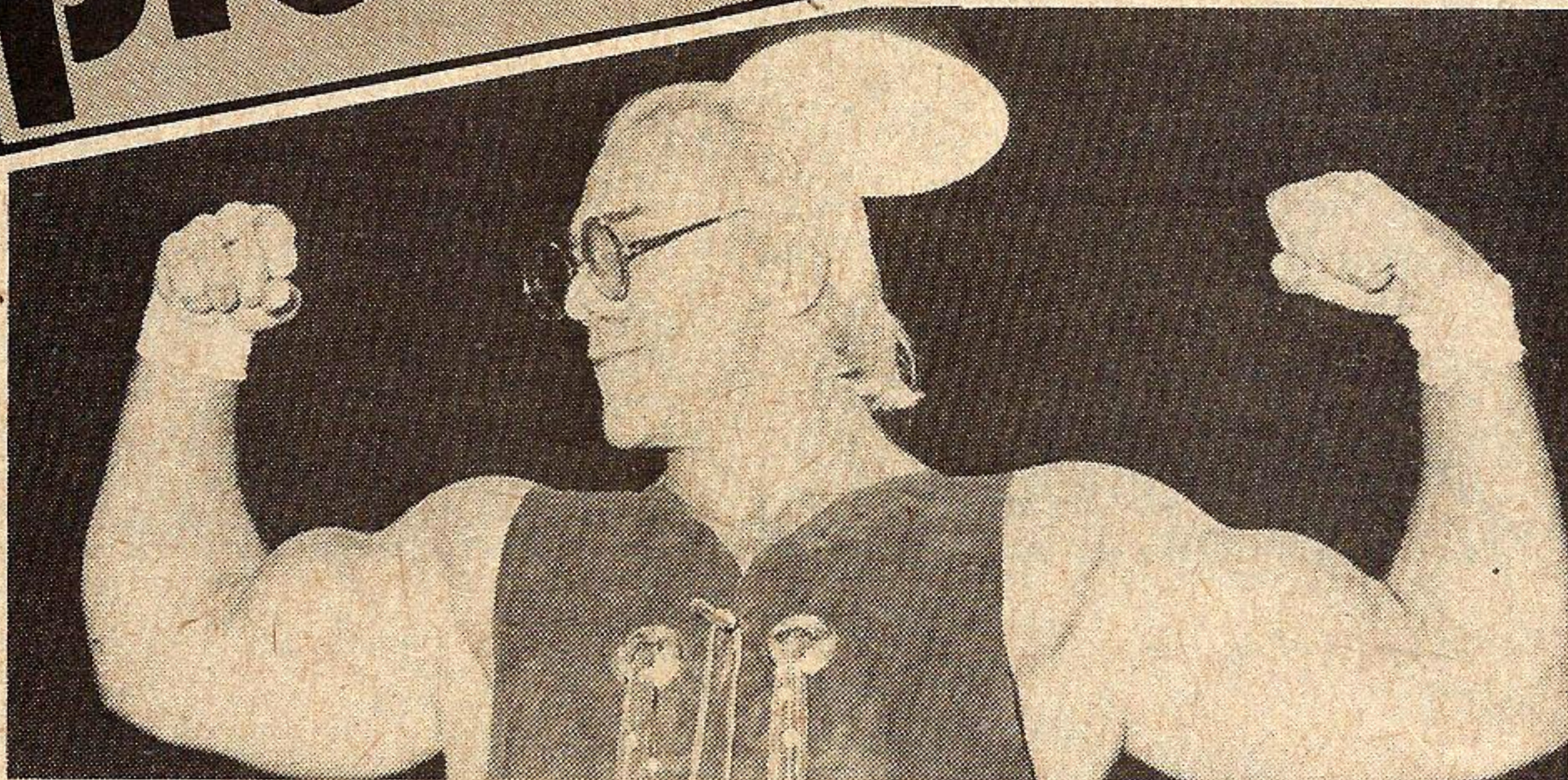
The catch was the "opponent" had to lay down on the mat. One night a fan said Rogers would have to put him to the mat himself. Buddy reportedly said "Okay but your shoelace is untied."

When the man looked down, Rogers uncorked a right hand punch, catching the man totally unprepared. The fan was knocked unconscious and it is a small miracle he didn't try to sue Rogers for a tidy sum. Some judges take a dim view of assault regardless of the circumstances.

In other major sports, a fan is immediately ejected if he runs on the field or throws something at the participants. Wrestling can ill-afford to be any less stringent in enforcing rules of behavior for the fans and wrestlers.

It is better to lose a few dollars at the box-office or even a star attraction, than to have someone seriously injured.

readers' pros & cons



Superstar Billy Graham shows off his mountainous muscles, no doubt to his numerous female fans.

BILLY GRAHAM TOO MUCH

Dear Sirs:

In your December issue of WRESTLING REVUE you had an article on "Wrestlers Muscles Provide Sex Appeal For Female Fans". When I saw that picture of super-sexy, super built, super star Graham I thought he would be mentioned in the article. Alas, no mention of the man who has really provided the muscles for female fans' sexual attraction. Do you realize how many women would become Mr. Graham's slave because of his gorgeous sensual body?

So, how about another article on wrestler's muscles, featuring the super great, Mr. Super Star, Billy Graham.

Sandra Levin

(and 32 married women who agree with this letter but are afraid to sign it for fear their husbands will see it.)

Lancaster, Pa.

Editor's Note — Billy Graham no doubt will be happy to know he excites at least 33 women — married or otherwise. Sandra, either you have

your husband under control or you are a bold young woman or you are single.

LOVES GIRL GRAPPLERS

Dear Sirs:

I treasure a recent issue of WRESTLING REVUE for the five pages of astonishingly vivid pictures of Peggy Patterson fighting Lilly Thomas. How they bring out the intensity of each girl's efforts.

But — really what — do you take us for? Twelve of the 14 pictures are of one fight, the other two of another battle between these girls, for both are in different swim suits

All the same, more pictures of girl wrestling of this standard will be more than welcome.

Thank You

Fred D. Campian,
London, England

EDITOR'S NOTE — Just keep reading WRESTLING REVUE and WRESTLING MONTHLY and you will find our new editorial policy will stress girl wrestlers — both pro and amateur — in practically every future issue.

LIKES "KNOW YOUR HOLDS"

Dear Sirs:

I have been purchasing WRESTLING REVUE since 1965 about the time you rated Freddie Bassie as the number one hated mat villain. I have felt that your magazine is the best one on the newstands.

I would like to encourage you to continue your column, "Know Your Holds." I invented my own mat villain in 1965 The (masked) Torturer, who I have proclaimed as King of the Submission Holds. When I lived in California, put on mock wrestling matches in my dorm, Shasta Hall, at the California State University at Chico. One of my fans sent you a picture of me which you entered in your "Fans' Corner" in February, 1967. I think it was when I faced the Hawaiian Holocaust. Your column, "Know Your Holds" has increased my knowledge of submission holds which the Torturer can use in his future matches that I will write.

Also keep those articles on what's happening in the San Francisco area, which is my home town. I feel, as Promoter Roy Shire feels, that that is where the best wrestlers in the nation can be found. Wrestlers like Peppe Gomez, Ray Stevens, Pat Patterson, Red Bastien and Kenji Shibuya. I feel that many of the New York wrestlers are still amateurs in diapers. I would be home sick for wrestling at the Cow Palace if it were not for WRESTLING REVUE. No Mr. Shires, you have never let the San Francisco crowd down.

Sincerely Yours,
Stephen Christensen,
Ridgewood, New York

Editor's Note — "Know Your Holds" seems to be increasing in popularity with every new issue. Reader's Pros and Cons is open to every one's opinion but when you say the "New York wrestlers are still amateurs in diapers," please note the Gotham circuit has such stars as Bruno Sammartino, Pedro Morales, and Stan Stasiak among others.

readers' pros & cons



Dear Sirs

I am writing in regard to the letter in February 1974 issue by a person from Philo Illinois. He says that the Crusher and the Bruiser could not whip 2 idiots like the blackjacks or Baron Von Rasche and Ugly Jimmy Valiant, and he is dead wrong. Crusher and Bruiser could handle all the idiots I just named at one time. And now for their mentally incapacitated manager Booby and I mean Booby Heeman. If he is so great, how come his is dead scared of Crusher and Bruiser. He will not even get in the ring with them without ten of his men to guard him. And Mr. Philo as I shall call you for a man (heeman) who can't even beat Sam Menaker, he talks very big. Well, all Crusher and Bruiser fans out there know who's best and their initials are C-B. I know who I mean?

Tom Daley
Springfield Illinois

Boost For Monroe

Dear Sirs:

I am writing you about the most popular wrestler poll. I believe that Bruno Sammartino is the most popular wrestler and that he will stay that way for the next few years. I have been reading your magazine Wrestling Revue for 2 years and it is the best around. Now getting to the point. In the 2 years I have been reading your magazine, I have not seen a story on Sputnik Monroe. I know that Sputnik isn't the best in the world but he is a good wrestler. He has defeated Danny Hodge a few years ago and has held the World's Junior Heavyweight championship and belt. Doesn't that deserve a story? I think he is one of the best wrestlers I have ever seen and deserves a story in your Magazine. Also why don't you have the most popular wrestler poll every year. I think it is one of the most accurate polls I have ever seen. Have a story on the Great Sputnik Monroe real soon. Please print this letter. Thanks

Robert Cunningham
Wichita Falls, Texas

Editor's Note — We'll plan a feature on Sputnik Monroe in a future issue of WRESTLING REVUE but as for as the world's junior heavyweight championship is concerned, the history of the division going back to

1934 gives no record Monroe was ever champion. He probably beat Danny Hodge when the latter was between titles which — incidentally — he won three different times. See pages 20 through 24.

NEW MAT CLUB

Dear Mr. Welsh,

I am writing to thank you for your excellent editorial on women's wrestling. Without it, our club would not be in existence today.

The idea for our amateur group came from various requests by my wife's girlfriends who were interested in wrestling as a form of exercise. Some of them had taken judo or karate, but found more strenuous activity through good old-fashioned grappling. Because of my background, (I am a recreation supervisor) my wife asked me to assist in organizing a club. I must admit, however, that at first thought the whole idea was crazy! Also, I told them, I was sure that it was unprecedented and "completely improper" for women to engage in. You can imagine my amazement when I discovered your convincing editorial last month.

The rest is history, as our small group of girls and women now totals a dozen members who wrestle for fun and exercise. Needless to say, I have become an avid women's wrestling fan and see all of my bouts live and in my own home!

Thanks,

Bob Thomas
ORGANIZER
Eaton Town, N.J.

P. S. Please excuse my typing as we have no club secretary among our "liberated-women." Also we have been lucky enough (as our cards indicate) to gain an associate affiliation with the well-known A.W.W.A. of N.Y.! We plan interclub competition in the near future.

Editor's Note — WRESTLING REVUE is happy to be of assistance. We hope your club grows and prospers with new members in the future. Good luck.

MAT MAGS FOR SALE

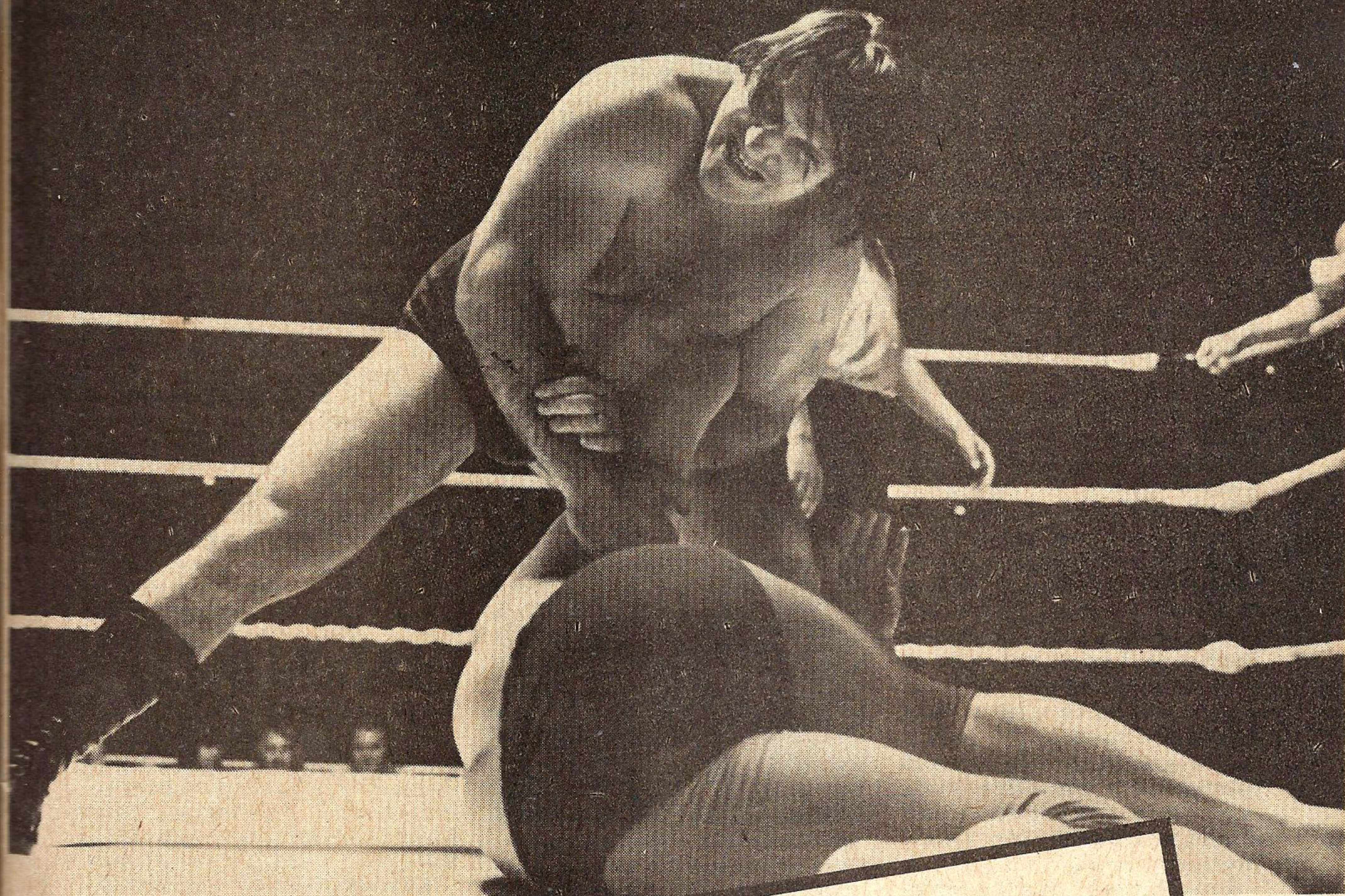
Dear Sir:

I have a large number of wrestling magazines for sale. Could you please list this in your "Fan Club Chatter" and tell them to send a self-addressed stamped envelope for the list.

Thanks in advance

Bill Smutny,
2701 Leonard
La Crosse, Wisconsin

Editor's Note — It would be impossible because of space limitations to list your magazines but we are listing your home address and perhaps some interested mat devotee will contact you in the near future.



Even If They Are Friends

Sammartino Must Fight Morales To Really Prove He's Champ

BY JACK WELSH

Bruno Sarmartino and Pedro Morales have much in common besides a continuing ring rivalry.

Both are universally popular and both are hailed as the People's champion by their respective ethnic groups.

Madison Square Garden in New York is a perfect locale to serve as a barometer of these wrestling goliaths' ever-expanding charisma.

When Sarmartino enters the ring, the Garden in general explodes but it is the Italian-Americans who really go bananas, throwing confetti and stomping the floor.

Then on another night it is Morales in the main event and the scene is a carbon copy, only this time it is the Latin-Americans who create the roaring din.

The question is who is the superior wrestler? In a meeting two years ago the super heavyweights wrestled to a draw but the fans weren't satisfied.

Promoter Vince McMahon managed to bring the two titans together again last October and

NEW YORKERS GO WILD OVER SUPER GIANTS

though it was an exceptional cold night for October, 20,000 fans showed up at Shea Stadium in Flushing, N.Y.

The match lived up to all advance billing with first Sammartino and then Morales gaining an advantage. However, time finally ran out and again the verdict was a draw.

Both men's arms were raised in victory but the question remained unanswered — who was the better man — Sammartino or Morales?

Like Muhammad Ali and Joe Frazier in boxing, Bruno and Pedro are tied together as long as they continue in active competition.

It was Morales who avenged Sammartino's loss of his World Wide Wrestling Federation championship to Ivan Koloff three years ago.

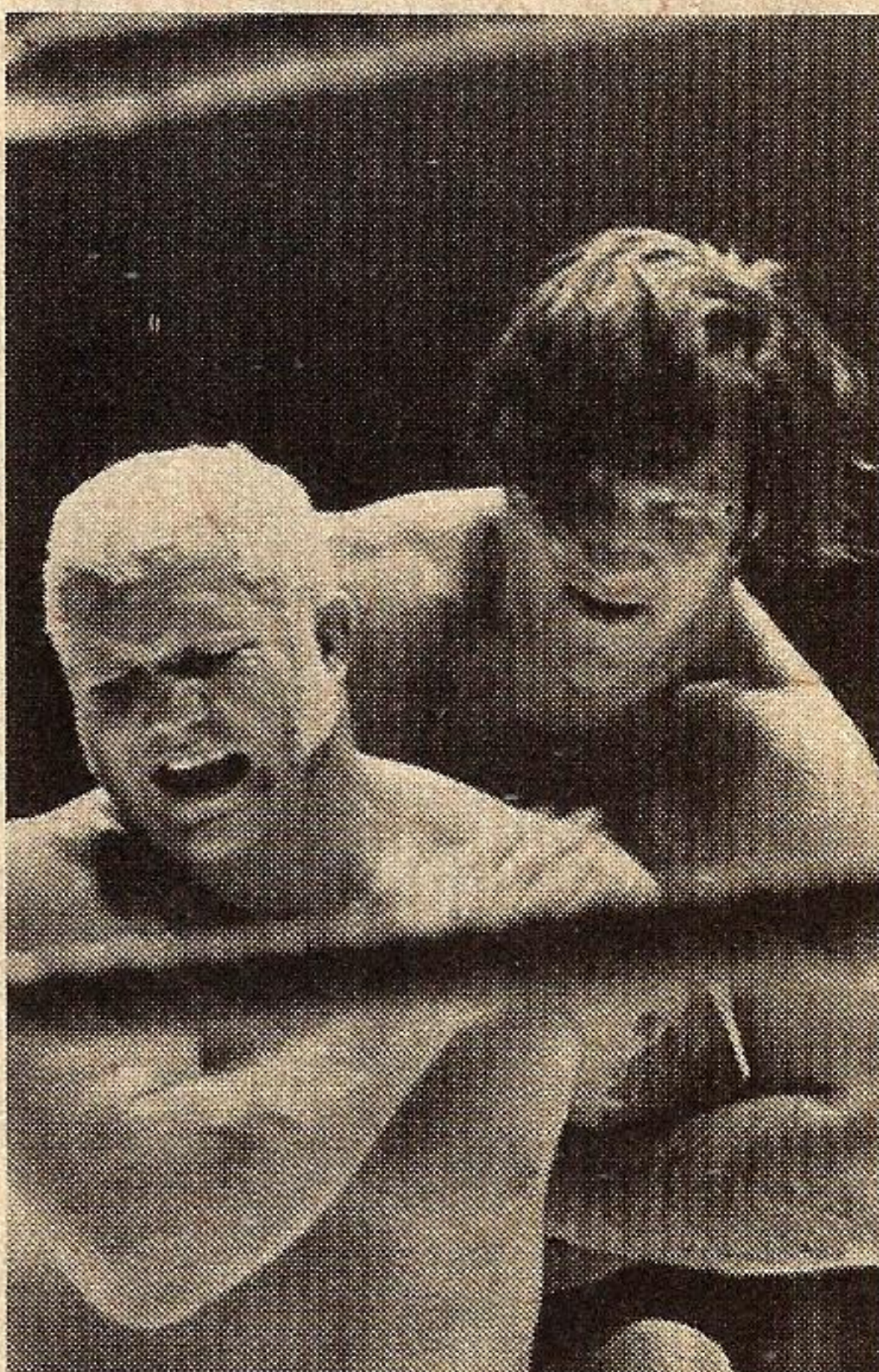
Pedro himself a worthy champion, defending his laurels in Japan, Colombia, Venezuela, Puerto Rico, and, of course, North America.

Morales was upset last winter by Stan Stasiak but the latter's reign was short-lived. And who avenged Pedro's loss — who else? Sammartino.

Bruno, considered by most experts as the strongest wrestler in the world, is a native of Italy and in the early sixties, he cut a wide swath across the nation to justify his current status as Super Star.

Sammartino was beaten in a match with the incomparable Lou Thesz and when the Hungarian from St. Louis failed to give Bruno a return match, the New York State Athletic commission designated Buddy Rogers, a former National Wrestling Alliance world champion, as the new titleholder.

Looking back to 1962-63, Sammartino and Buddy Rogers were waging a red hot feud. Bruno beat Rogers on Aug. 2, 1962 in Toronto.



Sammartino is one of the most powerful wrestlers in the world and he shows his strength here against former world's heavyweight champion Harley Race.

BRUNO, PEDRO TWICE FORGED DRAW VERDICTS

Rogers tried to leap over the charging Sammartino and was accidentally butted in the groin. Buddy could not continue and the bout was awarded to the Italian.

Sammartino, displaying superb sportsmanship, refused the title under such circumstances and suggested a rematch.

The pair got together again on Nov. 5 of the same year. Rogers used defensive tactics and retained his crown since the match ended in a draw.

Bruno and Rogers went at it again 15 days later but Buddy was again on the defensive to forge a deadlock. Finally on Jan. 24, 1963 Lou Thesz defeated Rogers for the title.

The W.W.W.F. contended that Thesz didn't deserve the title because his win over Rogers was a one-fall affair. The New York Athletic Commission supported their claim and proclaimed Buddy still champion.

Sammartino met Rogers again — this time on April 18, 1963 in Washington, D.C. It was a knock down drag out affair which saw both wrestlers disqualified and Rogers emerge with his crown intact.

One day less than a month later — May 17 — there were 19,649 fans in the Garden and this time Bruno scored a blitz, defeating Rogers in just 48 seconds to officially win the disputed title.

Sammartino made an estimated 100 successful defenses in a campaign which took him to Japan, New York, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Washington, D.C. Chicago, Detroit, and Los Angeles.

Although he had beaten Koloff in two previous meetings, the fates were not riding with Sammartino when he put his title on the line against the Russian on January 19, 1971 in Madison Square Garden.

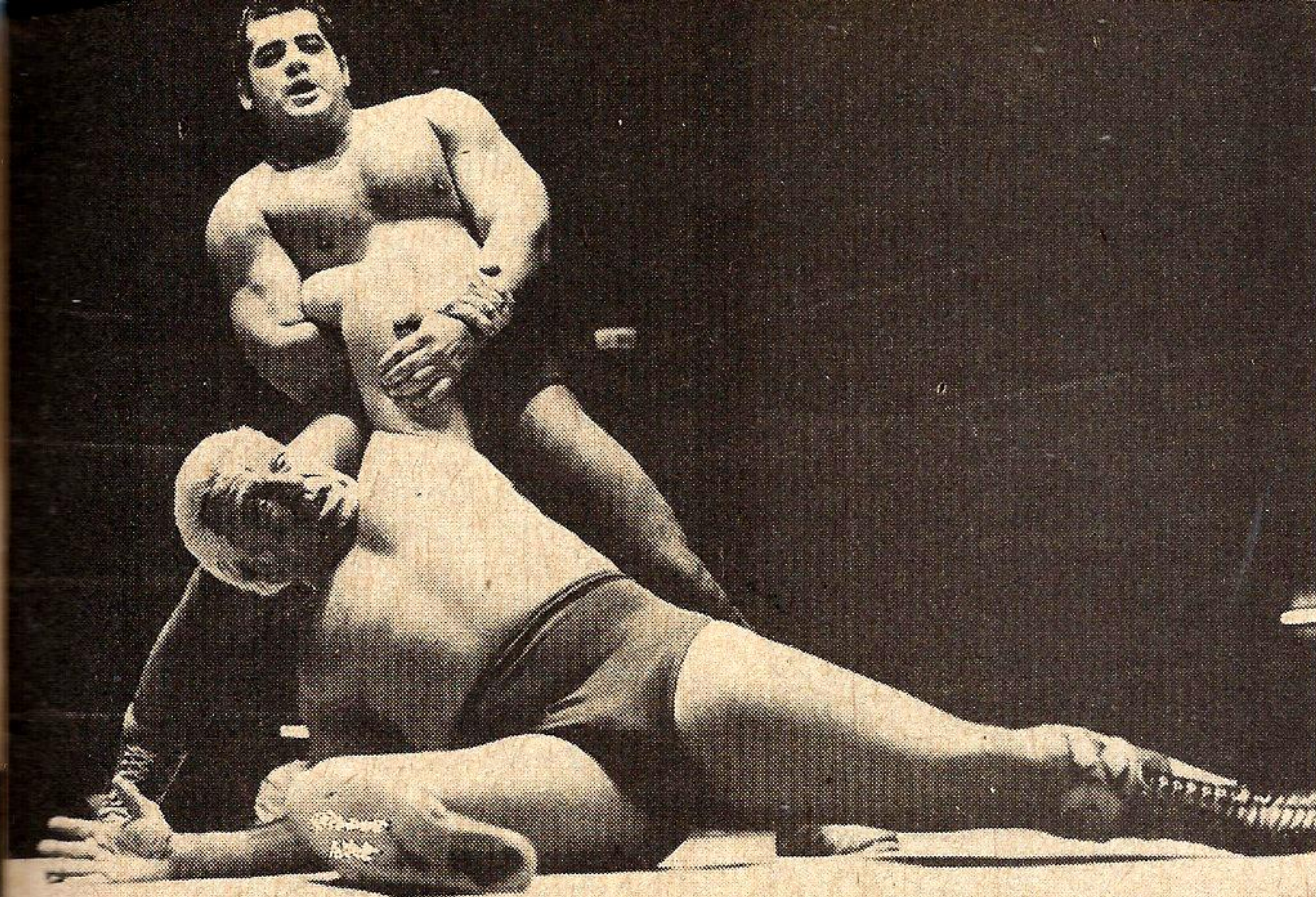
The wrestling world was calling the result "The Upset of the Century" but Koloff went home with the title. It was exactly three weeks to the day that Morales removed Koloff from the throne.

There were 21,812 fans, who paid \$86,885 for a then new record, to see Morales face Koloff for the title. Ivan started quickly with his illegal tactics and the crowd went wild in protest.

However, Pedro didn't lose his cool and after each wrestler had a fall a piece, the title changed hands with a dramatic ending.

Morales back-dropped off the top rope and caught Koloff by surprise. Pedro landed full force with all of his 235 pounds and laid Ivan flat as the referee tolled the fateful "three count."

Lou Albano, Koloff's manager,



Morales also demonstrates he is no one to fool with as he traps Tarzan Tyler in a powerful arm bar.

may have seen the handwriting on the wall long before the combatants entered the ring.

Morales was on the semi-final the night Sammartino, his idol, was beaten by Koloff. He begged McMahon for a shot at the Russian star.

McMahon was hesitant, thinking Pedro wouldn't be strong enough for Koloff if Sammartino couldn't beat him.

Perhaps Albano thought the Latin youngster would be a soft touch but would still make for a good payday.

Albano reportedly told McMahon, "Give the kid a break... he deserves it."

"Okay, you're next opponent is the Canadian Wolfman... beat him convincingly and you got the match."

Unfortunately, The Wolfman didn't know the incentive Morales had going into the bout and never had a chance. Pedro literally battered him from pillar to post for a quick triumph.

Seeing the results, Albano tried to back out, saying they would meet Morales at a later date.

Fortunately, the inspector for the New York Athletic Commission had heard Albano's conversation with McMahon and issued a firm edict.

"You gave your word. Now go through with the match or we will suspend you and Koloff."

Koloff and Albano had no choice and that is how a new champion was born. Sammartino was the first man in the ring to congratulate Pedro on his triumph.

After he lost the title to Koloff, Sammartino went into semi-retirement and only performed occasionally in Pittsburgh, where he made his permanent home.

Bruno was still seething over the loss of his title to Koloff and though Ivan had since been replaced as champion by Morales, Sammartino wanted another shot at the Russian.

The match was made in Pittsburgh and it was considered one of the greatest matches ever in the Steel City.

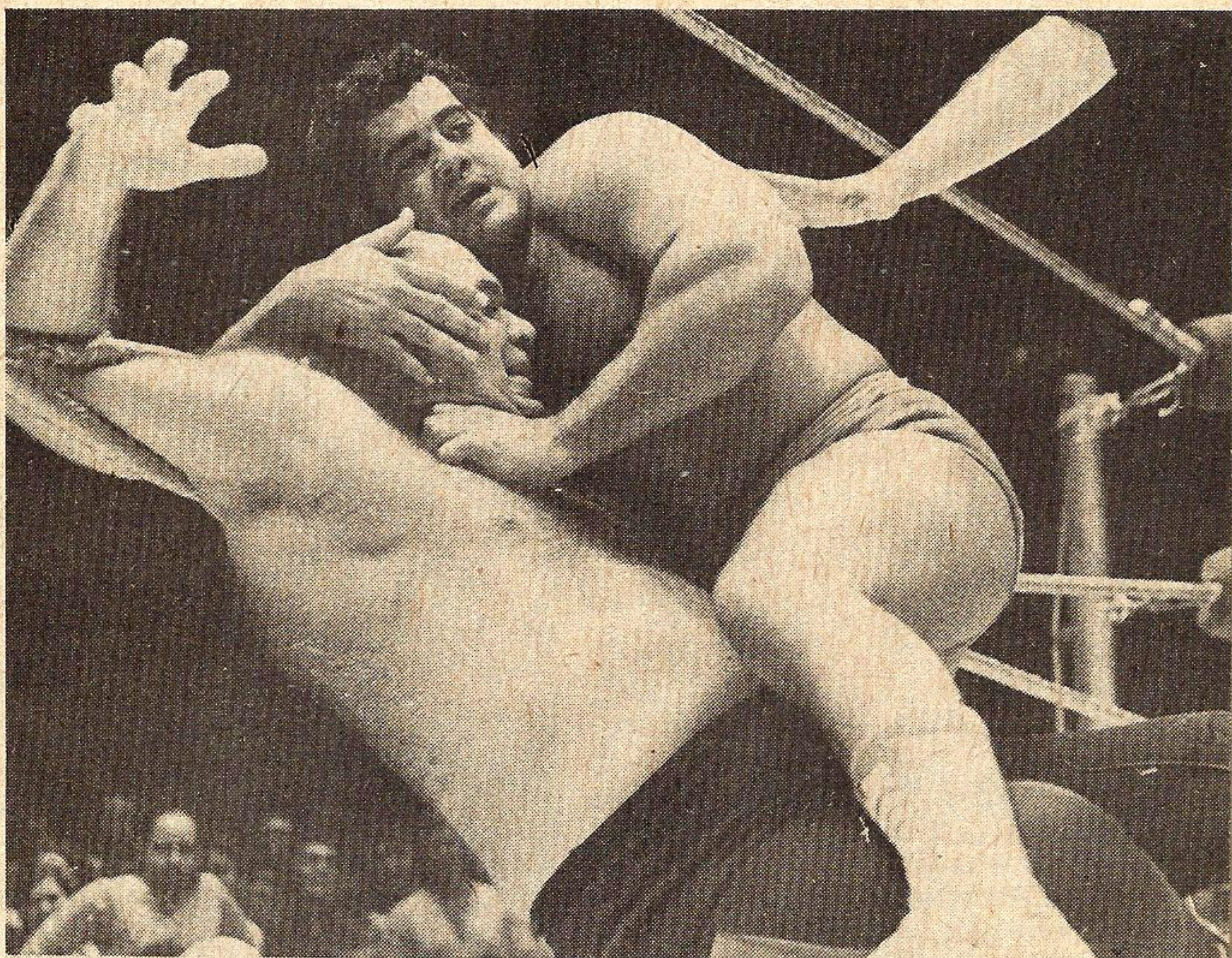
As usual Koloff threw the rule book out the window but Sammartino bided his time. Finally Ivan was caught in a bear hug and the powerfully-built Sammartino picked up his adversary and threw him into the third row of seats.

Koloff was sidelined for three months with multiple fractures.

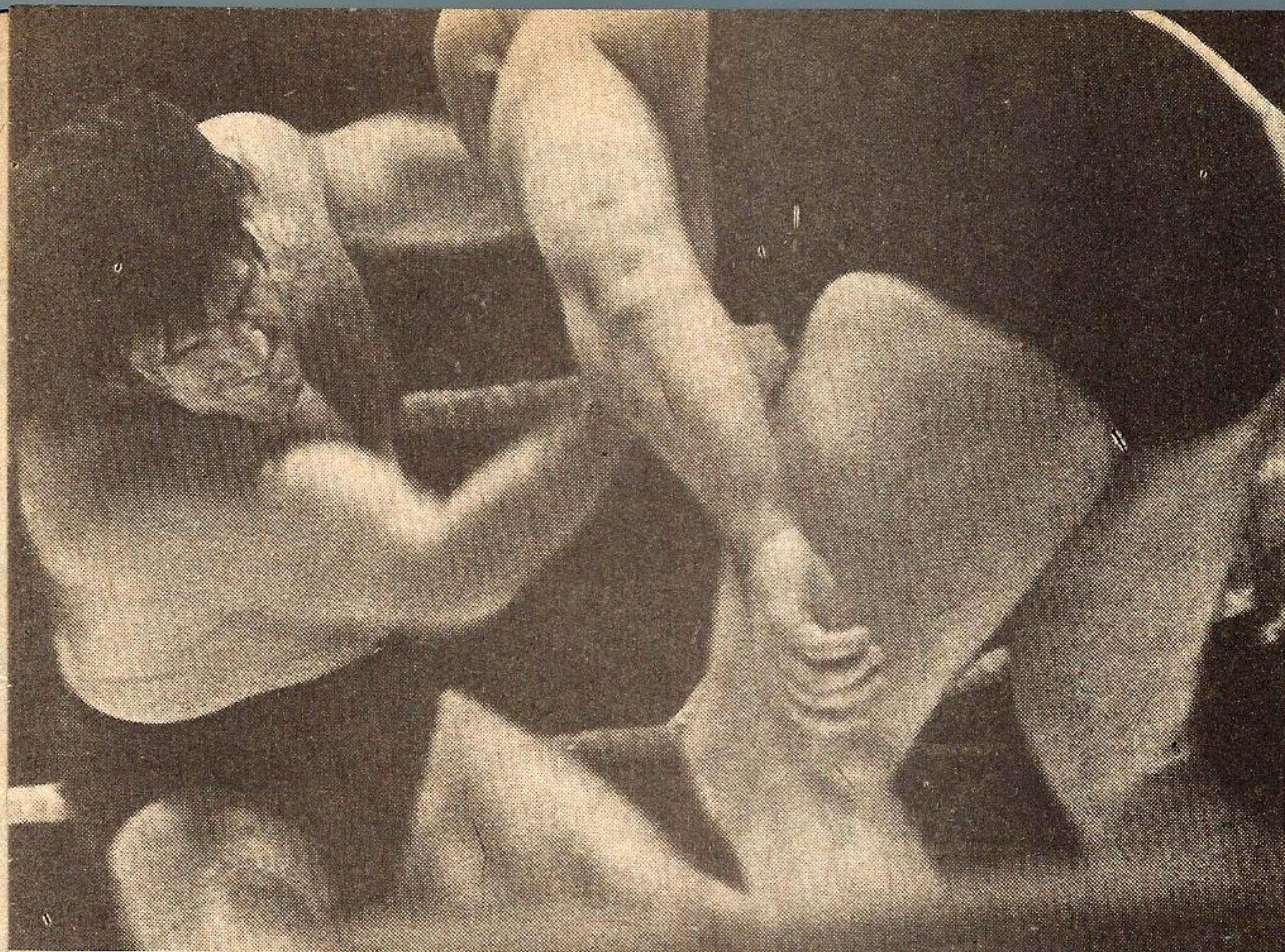
New York fans hadn't forsaken Sammartino and were clamoring for his return.

McMahon kept putting on his powers of persuasion and Sammartino returned to the Garden in the summer of 1972.

Bruno's legions of fans had to get a quick look because Sammartino disposed of Black Jack Mulligan in 68 minutes. The ovation was deafening and it did wonders for Sammartino's morale.



Morales has George Steele caught in the ropes and goes all out to give The Animal some of his own medicine.



Sammartino is in full command of the situation as he sets up Ivan Koloff, the Russian giant who originally beat him for the championship.

Next stop for the Italian giant was Japan and as usual, the reception was tremendous and, of course, Bruno was his usual sensational self in the ring.

Returning to the United States, Sammartino stopped off in Los Angeles where he easily won a 22-man Battle Royal.

Easily made be a strong word when you consider the participants — Ripper Collins, Massa Seito, Cowboy Frankie Lane, Mil Mascaras, Rocky "Soulman" Johnson and Haystacks Calhoun among other stars.

Bruno also dropped off in Las Vegas and Detroit, rolling up a fresh victory string.

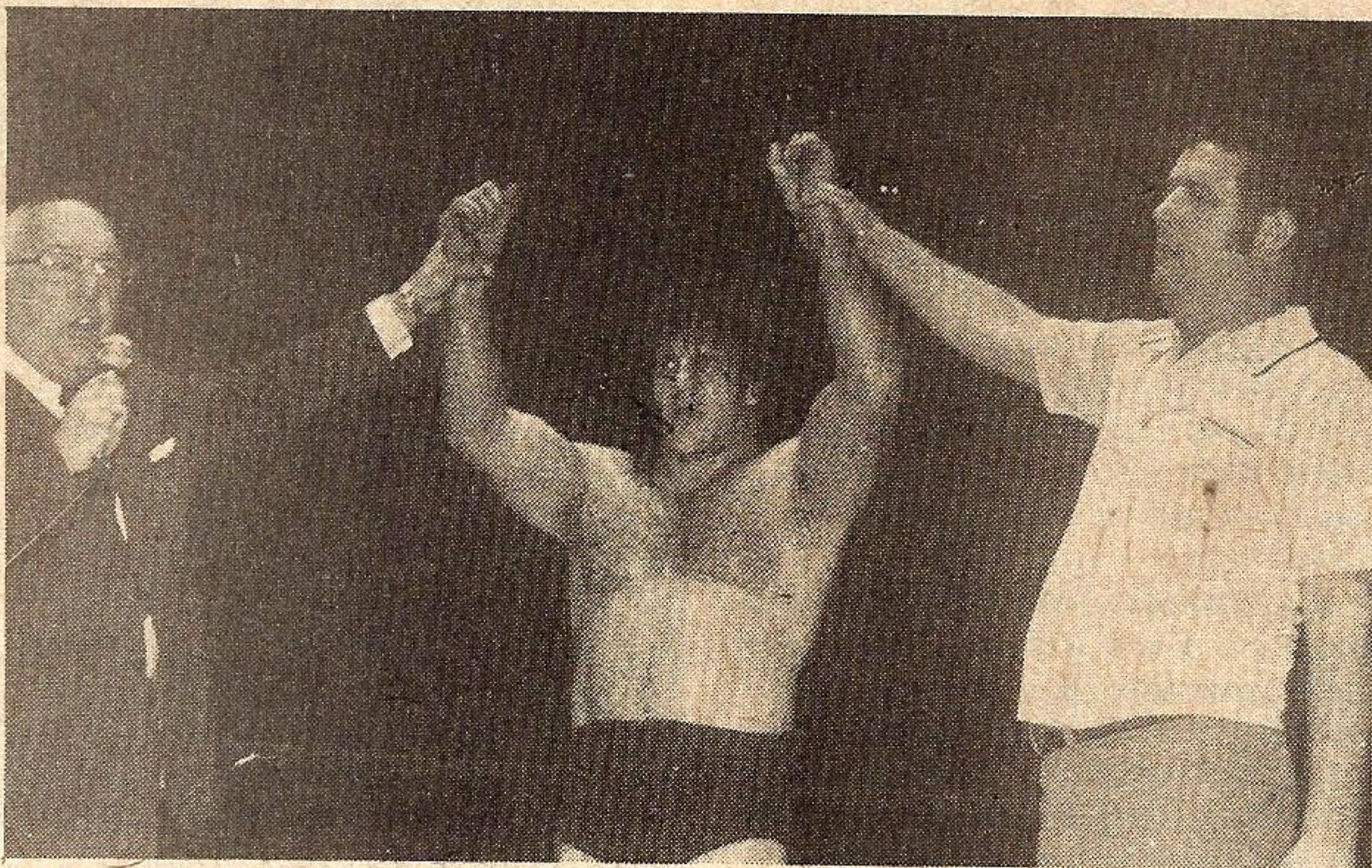
Once again his New York following was besieging McMahon for another look at Sammartino. Finally manager Arnold Saakland agreed to bring Bruno back, going against Smasher Sloan in the best two out of three falls.

The crowds went wild, filling the air with confetti and relentless cheers. It was one of the greatest ovations any athlete was ever accorded in The Garden.

As expected Sloan tried to catch Sammartino by surprise but it was all in vain. Bruno threw Sloan around like he was a rubber ball and really applied the pressure with an arm twist.

The Smasher got out of the hold by gouging Bruno's eyes but

the latter countered with a trip out and leg out. Sloan managed to break free but Sammartino grabbed Sloan and threw him into the ropes. As his adversary was rebounding, Bruno caught him and raised him high into the air to apply his dreaded backbreaker. THE Smasher had no choice but to submit.



The ring announcer and the referee lift the highly-popular Italian's arm, signifying another victory.

The crowd was delirious with joy — even to the point of throwing small Italian and American flags in the ring. Bruno picked them up and waved them at his frenzied admirers.

Sammartino told the press.

"I am so happy to be back in New York and I am thrilled that so many wonderful fans turned out to greet me after such a long absence. I am glad I could please them tonight."

That was just the first of many jubilant nights for Sammartino fans and the scene hasn't changed with nearly half of 1974 behind us.

As we mentioned earlier the same hero-worship is given to Morales whenever he performs in the Garden.

Pedro has come a long way from his amateur days back in

ITALIAN STAR NOW REIGNS AS WWWF CHAMPION

1955 in Puerto Rico where he performed with great success until invading New York in 1958.

One of three children, he was raised in the small town of Culebea where he wrestled while in high school and later in local YMCA and inter-Y tournaments on the island.

As a youngster, Pedro weighed

only 160 pounds but he was destined to mature into a powerful 240-pounder on a five-foot, 11 inch frame. And as all of his female admirers will agree, Morales swarthy good looks and curly black hair are a definite plus at the box-office.

Pedro made his New York debut at Sunnyside Gardens, defeating Billy Gilbert in less than three minutes. Toots Mondt, veteran Sunnyside promoter, was so impressed with Morales that he recommended him to McMahon.

Morales performed up and down the Atlantic Coast and in less than two years had graduated to the main event class.

Though he had reached star status in New York and Philadelphia, Morales decided to go west. Since 1965, Pedro has displayed his skills throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico, Japan, Hawaii and Australia.

Pedro picked up the United States championship along the

way, added new fans and established box-office records in many cities that still stand today.

Morales became the first non-Mexican to become a hero of the Chicanos in Southern California where he campaigned for three years before heading for Hawaii and The Orient.

Later Pedro visited the Land Down Under where he wowed Aussie fans with his sensational style of agility, power and general ring ship.

After a brief visit to his native land, Morales returned to New York for a successful run that has yet to show any signs of ebbing.

Sammartino and Morales

MORALES SEEKS TO REGAIN TITLE HE HELD 3 YEARS

must be termed friendly rivals, each having the utmost respect for the other.

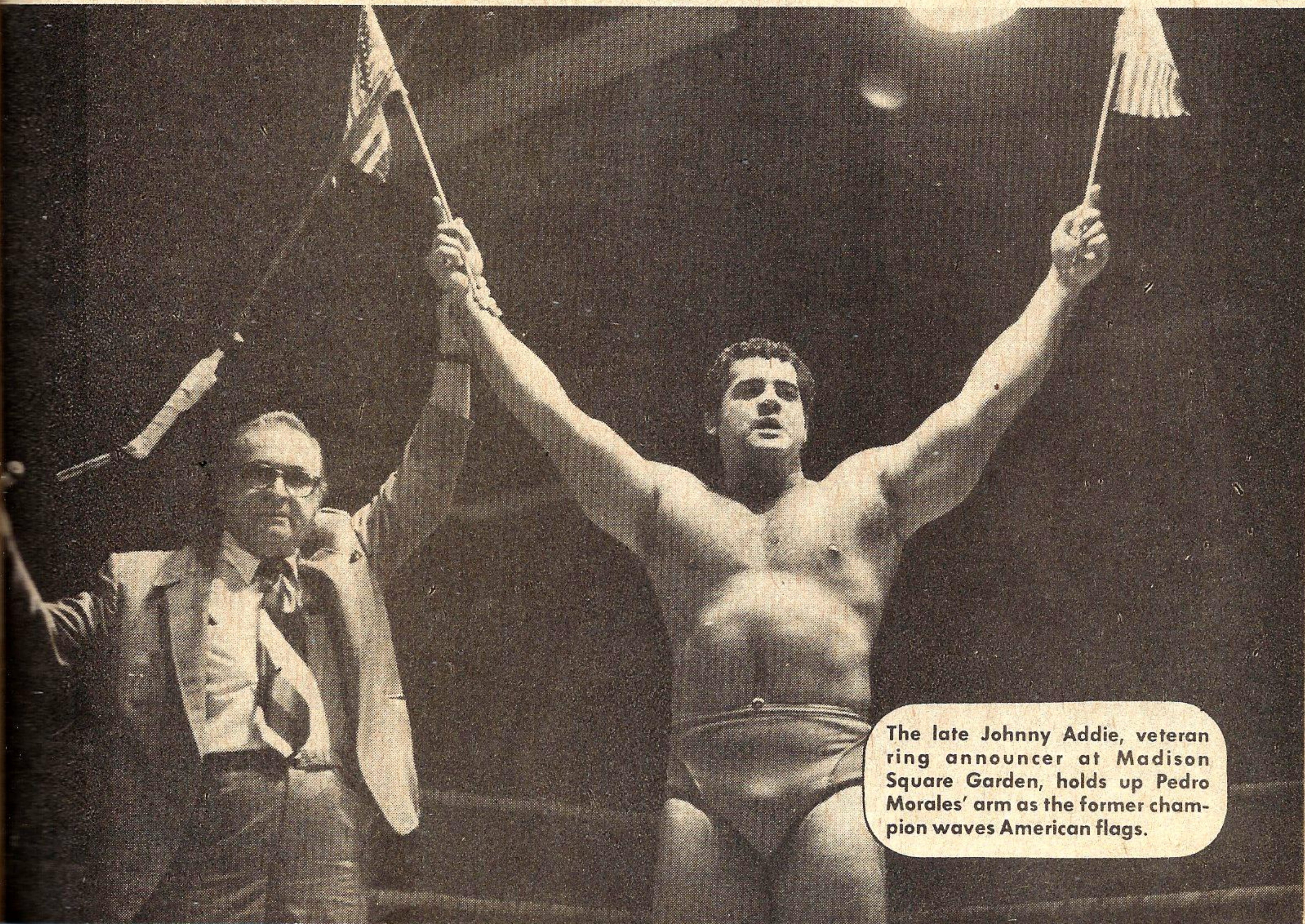
But when they meet in the ring that admiration will temporarily be checked. It can be no other way since both men aspire to wear the World Wide Wrestling Federation championship belt.

Sammartino has it now and has no intention of relinquishing it again. Morales has worn it proudly for three years before Stasiak came along and he enjoys the thrill of being hailed "champion."

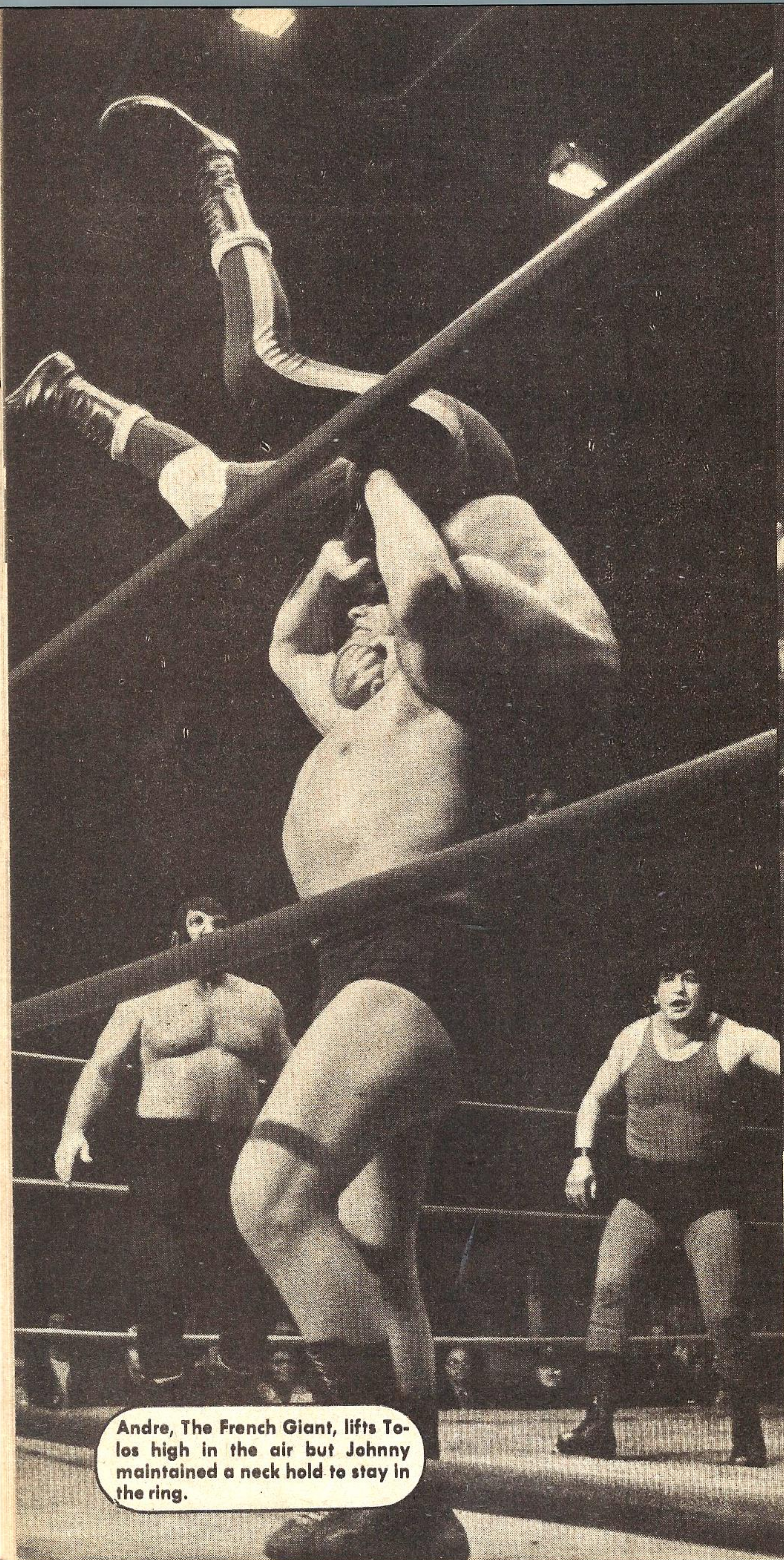
It is inevitable that these brilliant wrestlers must meet again. The two draws were thrilling spectacles to behold but they left too many questions unanswered.

Ironically, Bruno and Pedro have staunch fans who admire both. It will be interesting to see their reactions when and if these super stars meet during the summer.

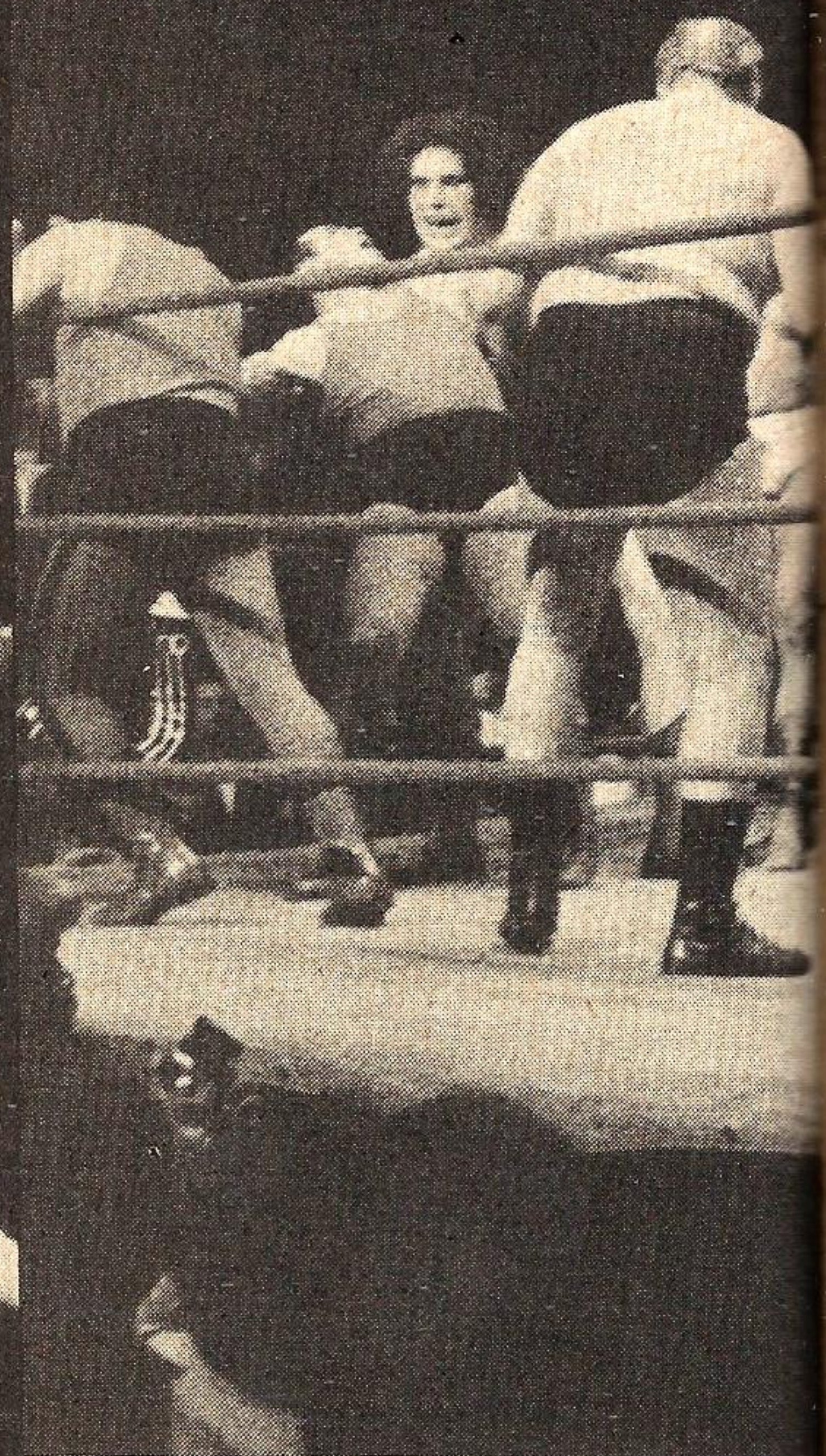
Maybe some of the best action won't be in the ring... ●



The late Johnny Addie, veteran ring announcer at Madison Square Garden, holds up Pedro Morales' arm as the former champion waves American flags.

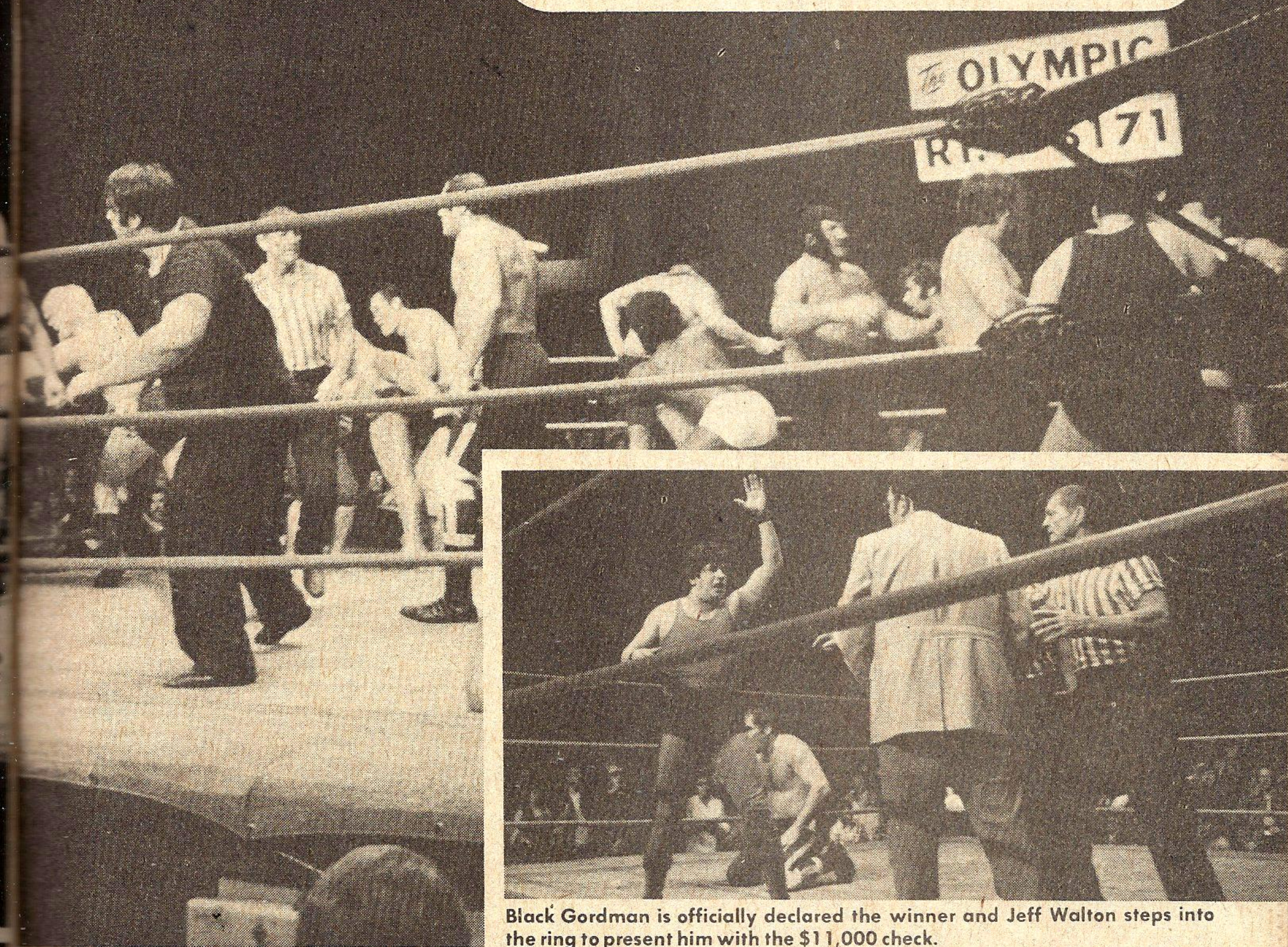


Andre, The French Giant, lifts Tolo high in the air but Johnny maintained a neck hold to stay in the ring.



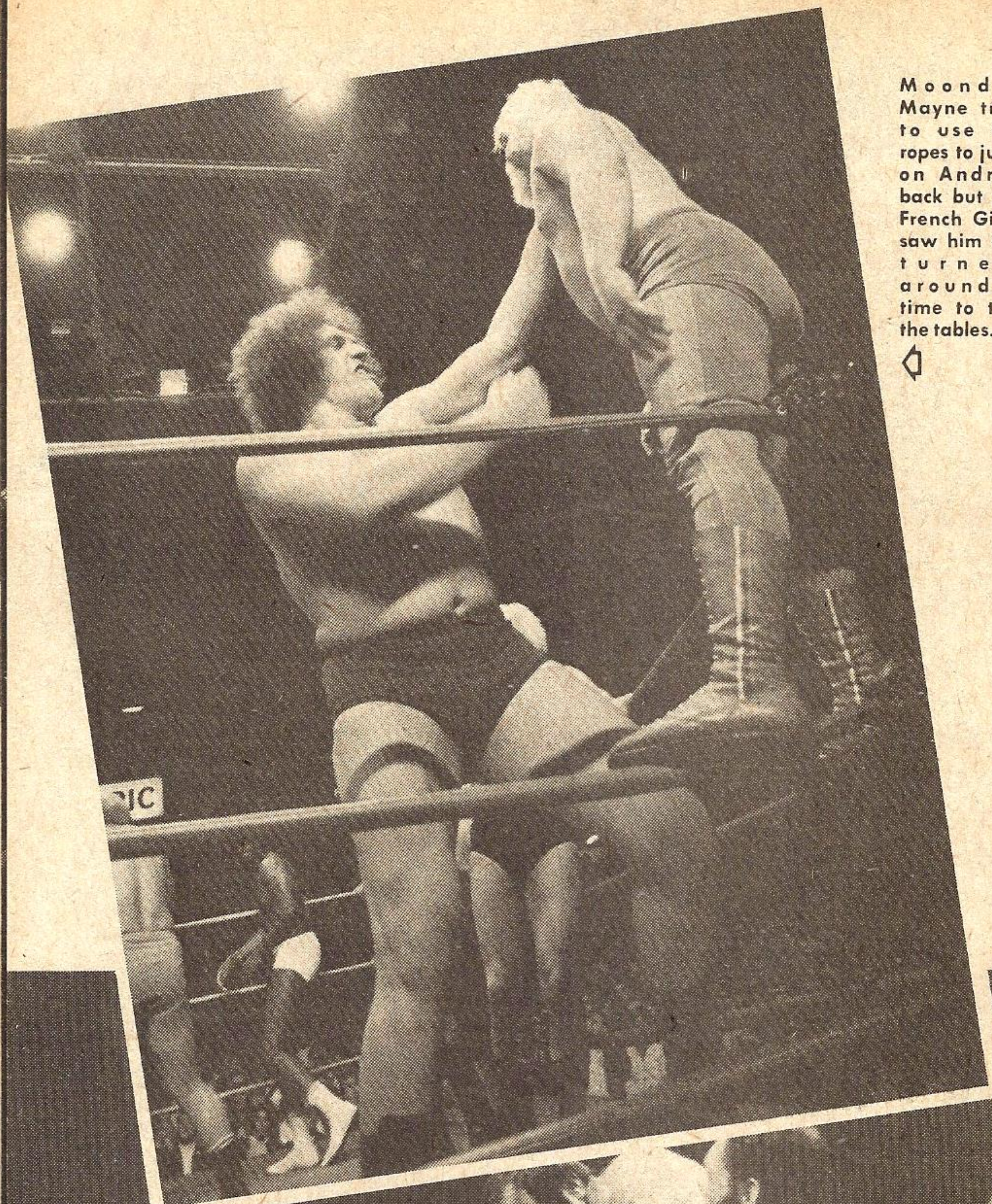
**WITH
\$11,000
ON THE
LINE**

In the early action of the World Battle Royal at the Olympic Auditorium in Los Angeles, (looking left to right) Black Gordman tries to push Ray Mendoza out of the ring, Andre The French Giant surprises The Great Goliath, Pat Petterson is the blond heavyweight across the ring, Country Boy Jones is in overalls and dark T-shirt, Pak Song is across the ring while John Tolos is in striped tights, the downed wrestler is Taro Fugi, Duane Allen (in black) tries to hoist Mr. Wrestling over the ropes and Dr. Death is in the black hood while Raul Mata looks back at him. The, big, big fellow with his back to the camera is Jung Ho.



Black Gordman is officially declared the winner and Jeff Walton steps into the ring to present him with the \$11,000 check.

BLACK GORDMAN HITS RIVERA WITH CHAIR TO WIN BATTLE ROYAL



Moon Dog Mayne tried to use the ropes to jump on Andre's back but The French Giant saw him and turned around in time to turn the tables.



BY PHILLIP M. MILLER

If the monetary lure is strong enough, a wrestling promoter can get the greatest names in the sport in the same ring at the same time.

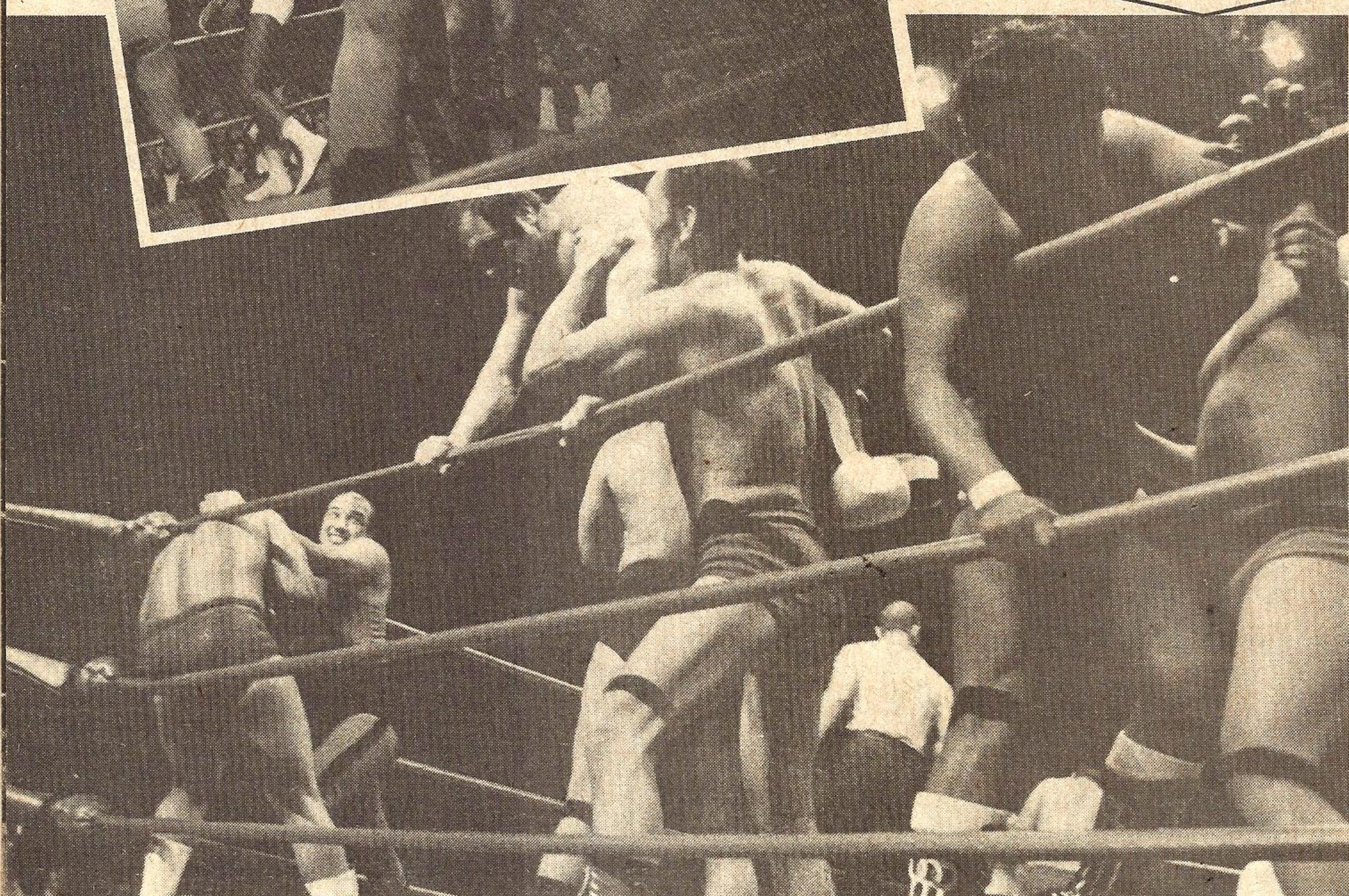
And if there is a more imaginative promoter than Mike LeBell at the Olympic Auditorium in Los Angeles, we don't know where he is operating today.

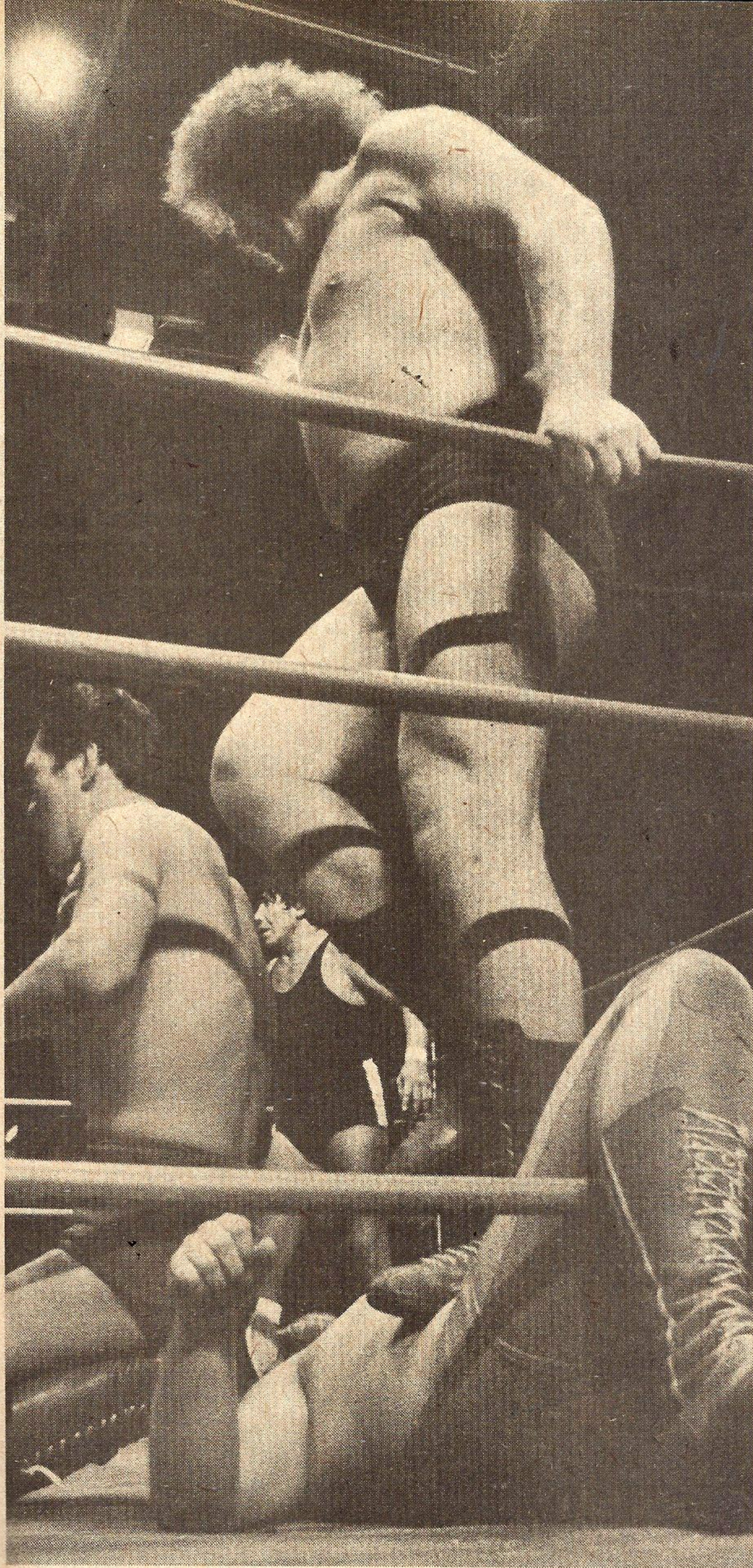
LeBell recently came up with his fifth World Battle Royal with a grand prize of \$11,000 to the winner. Being the enterprising man that he is, Mike didn't have to guarantee the purse — the wrestlers did that themselves.

There was an entry fee of \$500 per man with everybody going for a winner take all proposition.

It looked like a Who's Who in wrestling but as they came

Pak Song has John Tolos in a precarious position as he tries to toss him over the top rope strand.





Andre slams Moondog Mayne to the mat and then literally walks on him. (more photos on page 20)

down the home stretch there were only three men still standing — John Tolos, Black Gordman and Victor Rivera.

Gordman obviously had the best strategy of all. Tolos and Rivera were giving each other the works and Gordman used perfect timing as he slipped behind Rivera just as Victor threw Tolos over the top rope strand which is the only ground rule for such a match.

Black Gordman grabbed the timekeeper's chair and whacked Rivera over the head, knocking him out. When he was revived Victor went berserk and attacked everyone in sight — the referee, officials and attendants not to mention Black Gordman. Despite Rivera's belated all out assault, it didn't change the verdict as Black Gordman was officially declared the winner, picking up the \$11,000 check while Rivera — like 20 other wrestlers — had only frustration for his efforts.

Now LeBell, knowing a good thing when he sees it, can't wait to match Black Gordman against Victor Rivera in a no-time limit, no holds barred, two out of three falls main event.

Of course, the winner won't be getting \$11,000 but as far as Rivera is concerned, he will tangle with Black Gordman for peanuts — or less — just to get a shot at his recent conqueror.

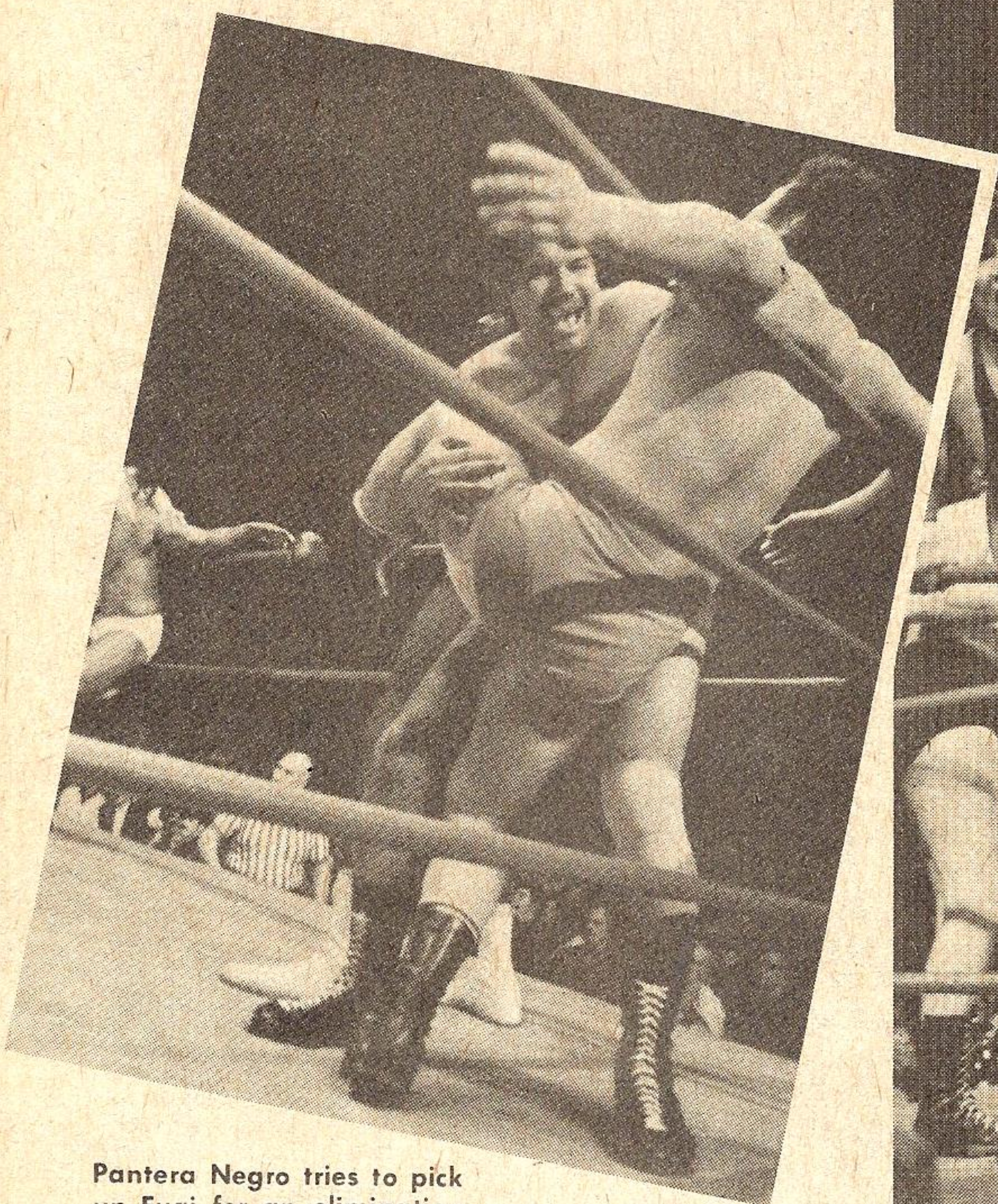
"Any wrestler that needs a chair to hit me with just can't have much confidence in his own ability. I know I can beat Black Gordman any time he is willing to get in the ring with me and he knows it too. I'll even let him use the chair just as long as I know he has it. In that Battle Royal I didn't even see it coming so it is no surprise he knocked me out."

Black Gordman just laughs at Rivera's protestations.

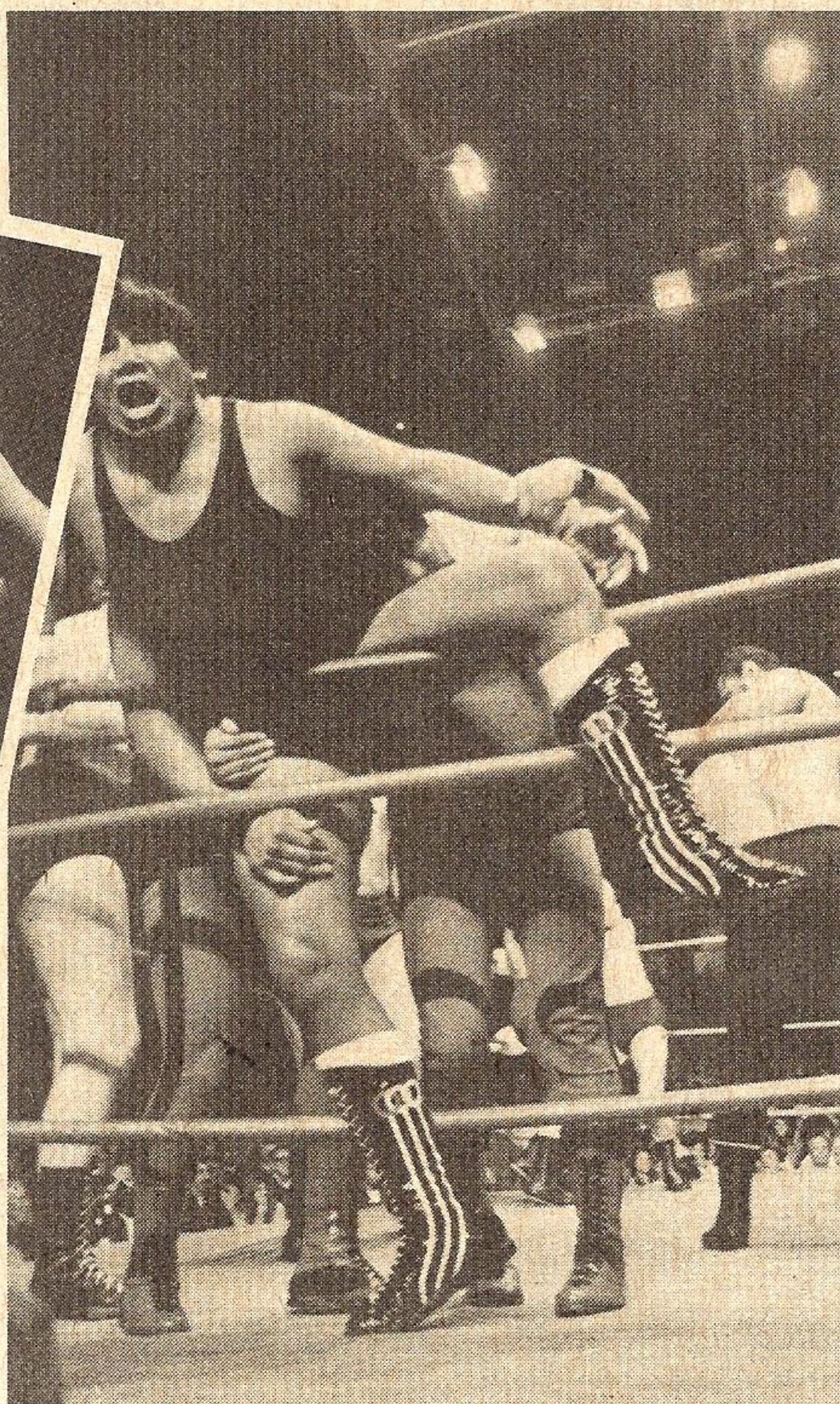
"Rivera is just a cry baby looking for excuses. He should be glad I didn't use my sleeper hold or backbreaker on him — he'd still be out of action and maybe even in the hospital. I'm ready for Rivera in a singles' match anytime LeBell wants to make it. Maybe I should let that bum use a chair . . . he probably needs it more than I do . . . I'm sure of that."



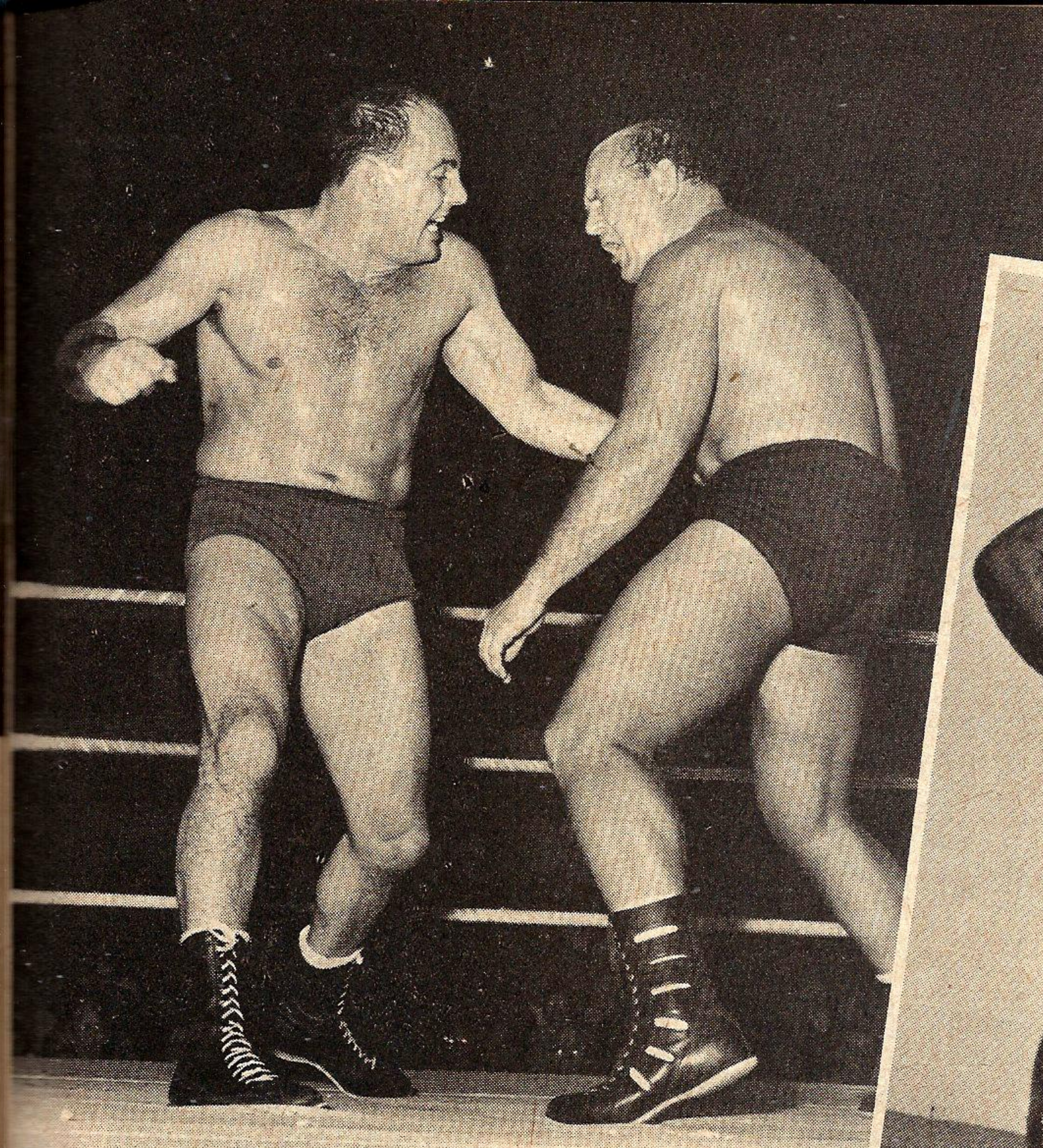
Rivera has been knocked out by the chair wielding Gordman and is helped from the ring by attendants.



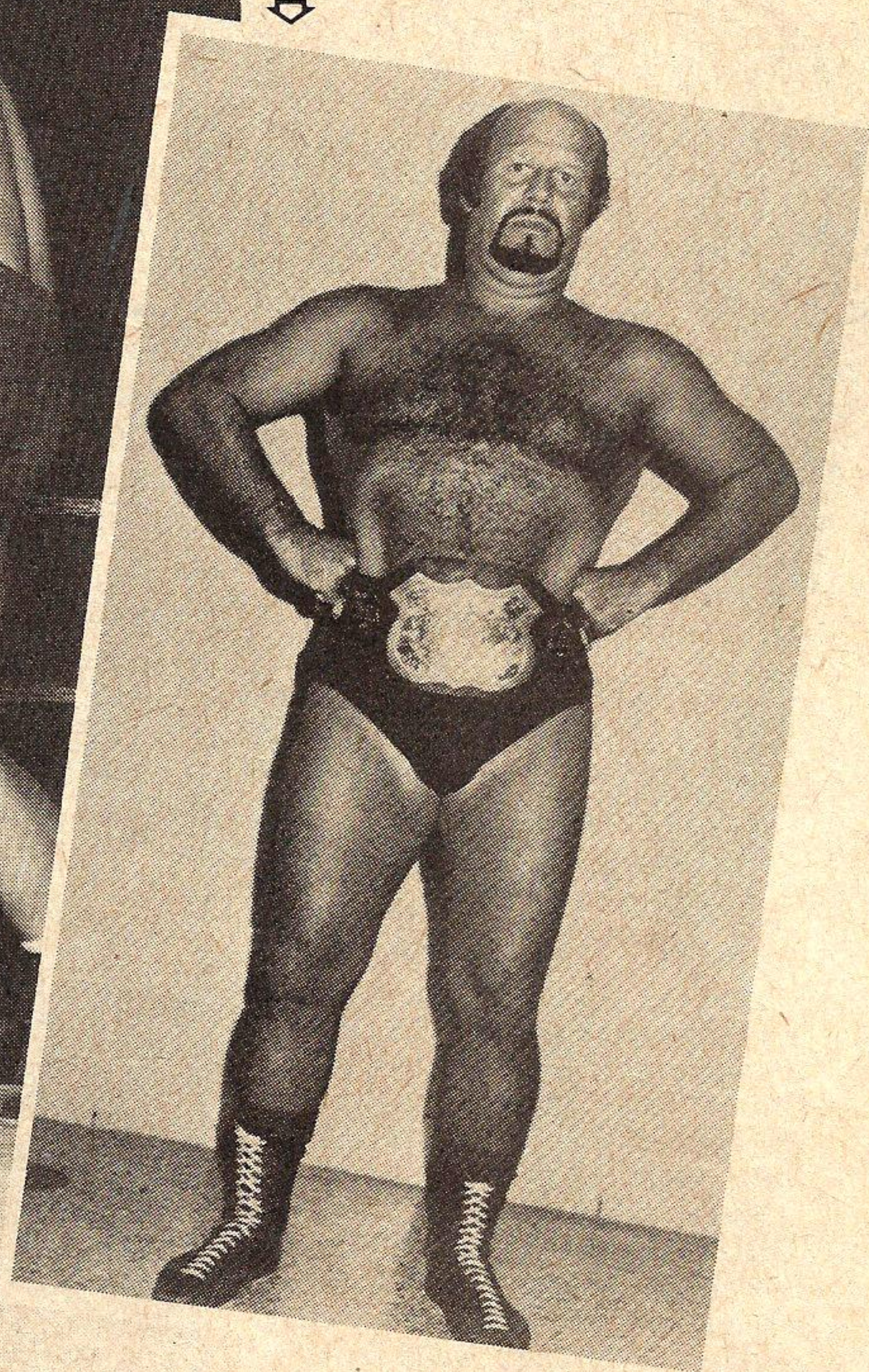
Pantera Negro tries to pick up Fugi for an elimination toss but the Japanese ace links himself on the ropes for security.



Gordman and Goliath team up to eliminate fellow Mexican, Ray Mendoza.



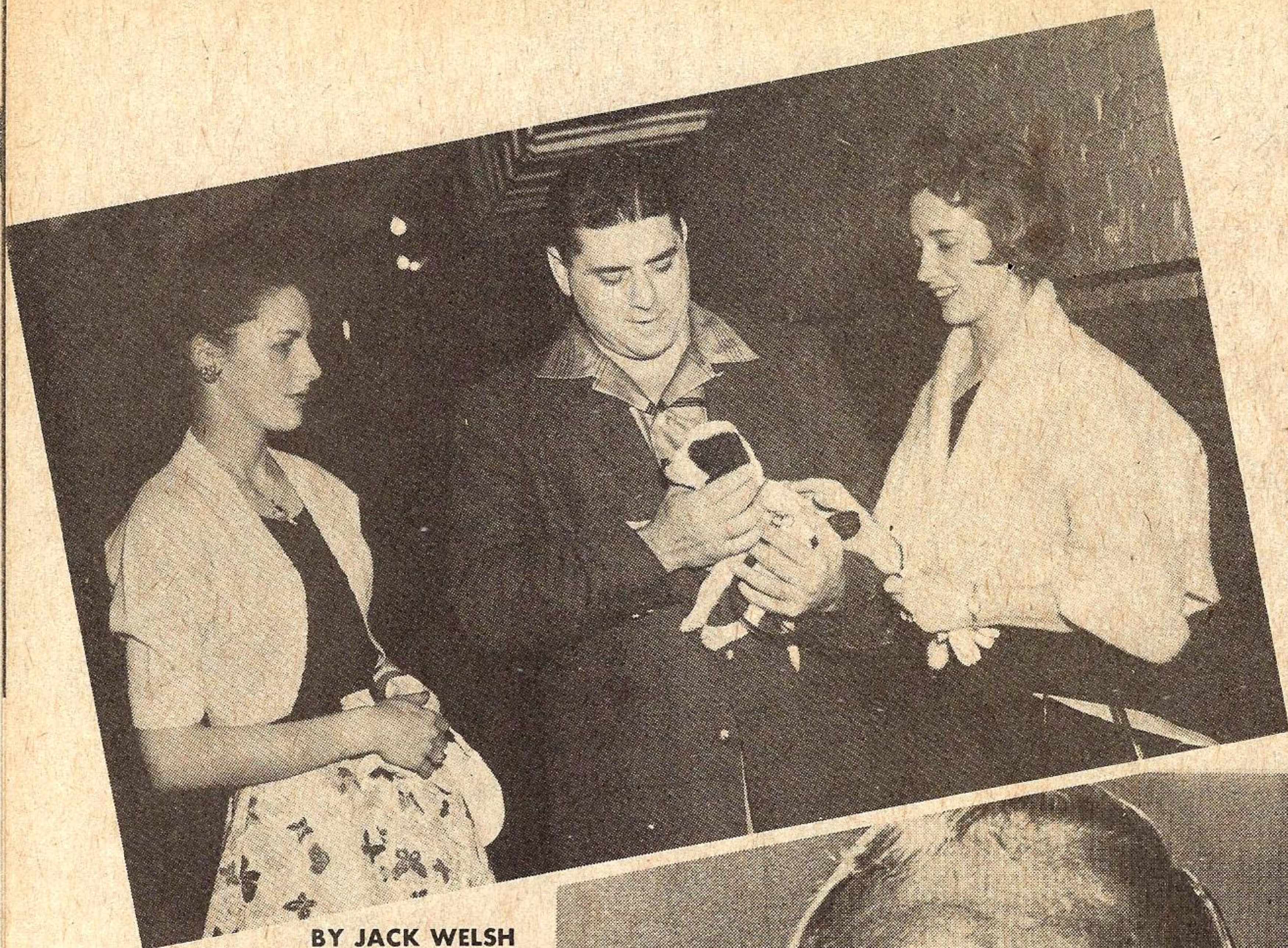
The popular Don Greene, U.S. Jr. Heavyweight champ.



⬆ Verne Gagne, seen here teeing off on Hard Boiled Haggerty, was one of the most popular world's junior heavyweight champions before giving up the title because of added weight.

**A COMPLETE
RECAP**

JUNIOR HEAVYWEIGHT TITLE TURNOVERS FROM 1934 TO 1974



Angelo Savoldi was never too busy to talk with his many fans throughout the country — or even play with a cute little puppy.

BY JACK WELSH

The junior heavyweight division in professional wrestling has grown in popularity throughout the United States in recent years but the competition forces athletes to watch their calories.

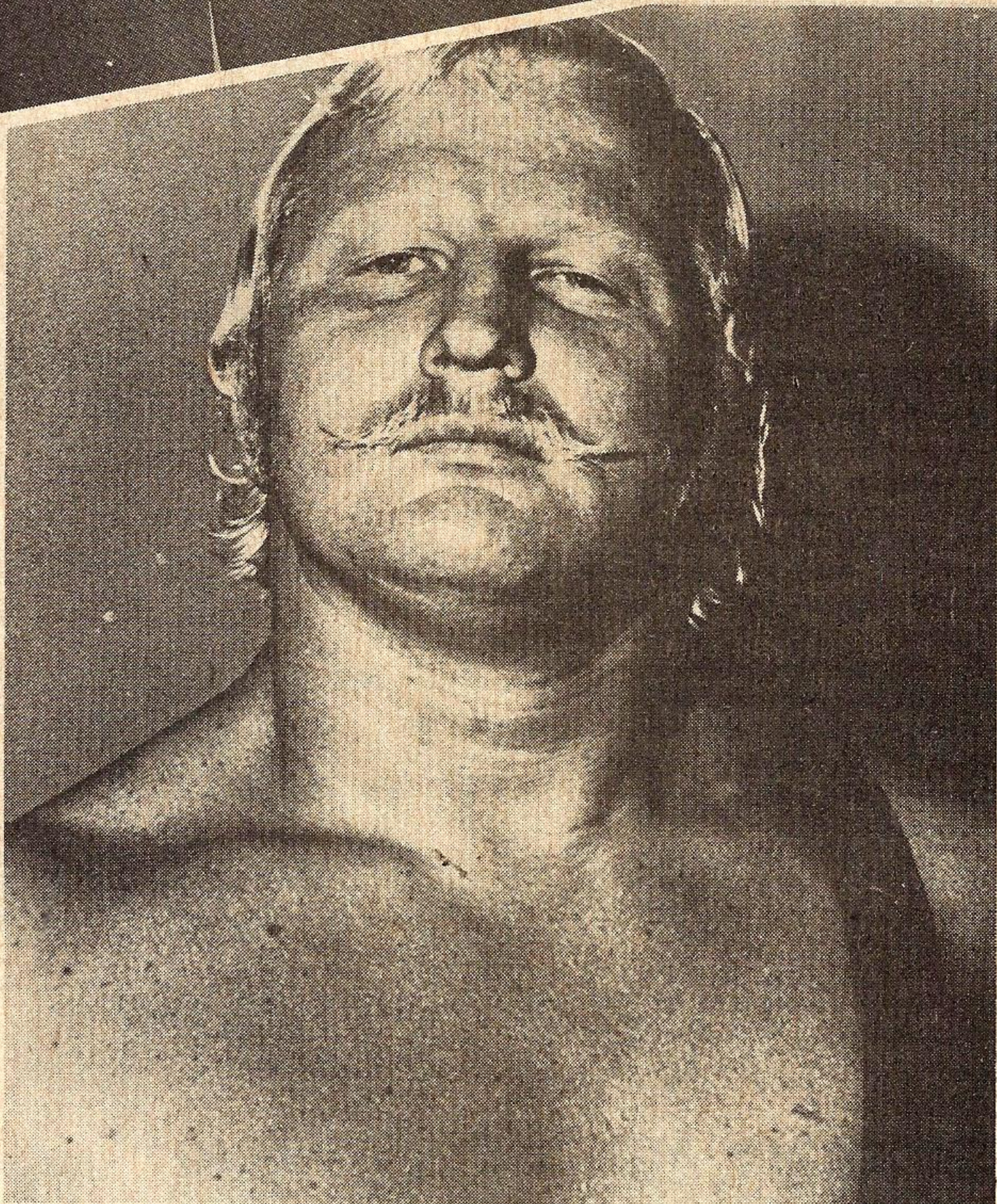
Since its inception in 1934, the division has recognized 16 different champions but several title-holders had to abdicate because they couldn't keep their weight under the required 220 pounds.

A junior heavyweight division was the brainchild of Hugh Nichols who was promoting in the Hollywood Legion Stadium in the late twenties and thirties.

Nichols had a wealth of talented wrestlers to scaled around 190 which made them too big for the light heavyweight limit of 175 — a division where Nichols once excelled — and too small for the bona fide heavyweights.

Nichols got permission and the sanction of the National Wrestling Association to hold a tournament for world class wrestlers not weighing more than 190 pounds.

Harry J. Landry, president of the N.W.A., was so impressed with the innovation that he came to Hollywood to personally present a championship belt to the winner of the tourney.



"Rip" Kirby, sometimes referred to as Nature Boy, always gave the impression of being a cocky and haughty champion.

KEN MANTELL NOW CHAMP, BEAT HODGE

The first champion officially crowned was a Kansas farm boy named Albion Britt from the small township of Luray. The date August 14, 1934.

Britt was a powerful 190-pounder but in the last 40 years all athletes in all major sports seem to be growing taller and becoming heavier upon maturity. Consequently, the junior heavyweight division now has a ceiling of 220 pounds.

The current champion is Ken Mantell, a 27-year old native of Provo, Utah, who won the title from Danny Hodge on Dec. 19, 1973 in Jackson, Miss., and successfully defended it in a rematch.

Like some of his predecessors, Mantell is having his problems in staying within the division's weight limitations and be forced to give up the title before he ever loses it in the ring.

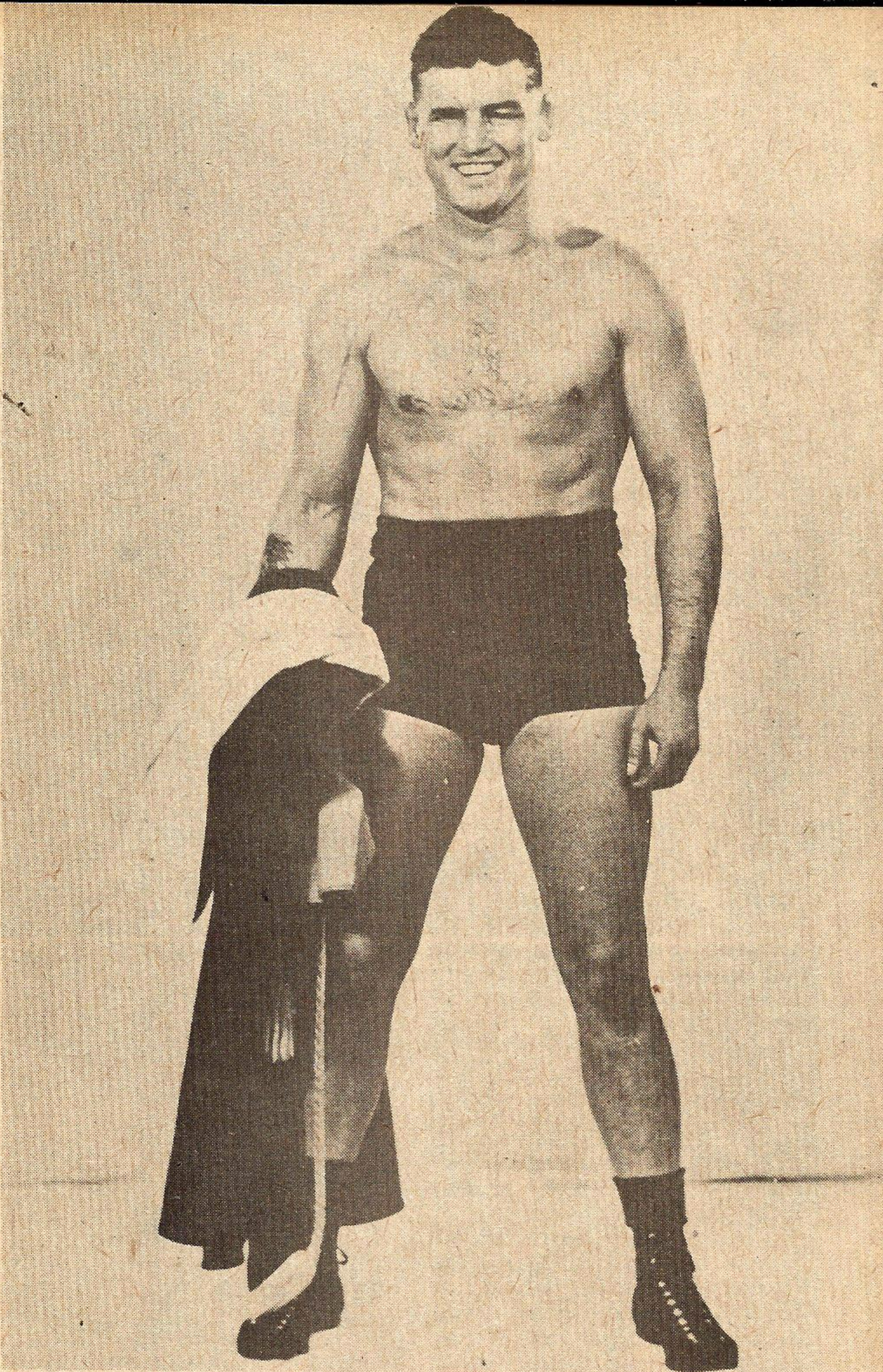
Mantell is a product of Brigham Young University and has been wrestling — pro and amateur — for 13 years. Both of his victories over Hodge were two out of three events, the second one coming at Mobile Ala.

Turning back the clock to the divisions' infancy, Britt — the inaugural kingpin — came from a family of wrestlers. His father became a legend as a middleweight, campaigning throughout Kansas, Nebraska, Wyoming and Colorado.

Britt was well-schooled by his father and he later spent much time on the Wyoming sheep ranch of Clarence Eklund, one of the great lightweightweights of all time.

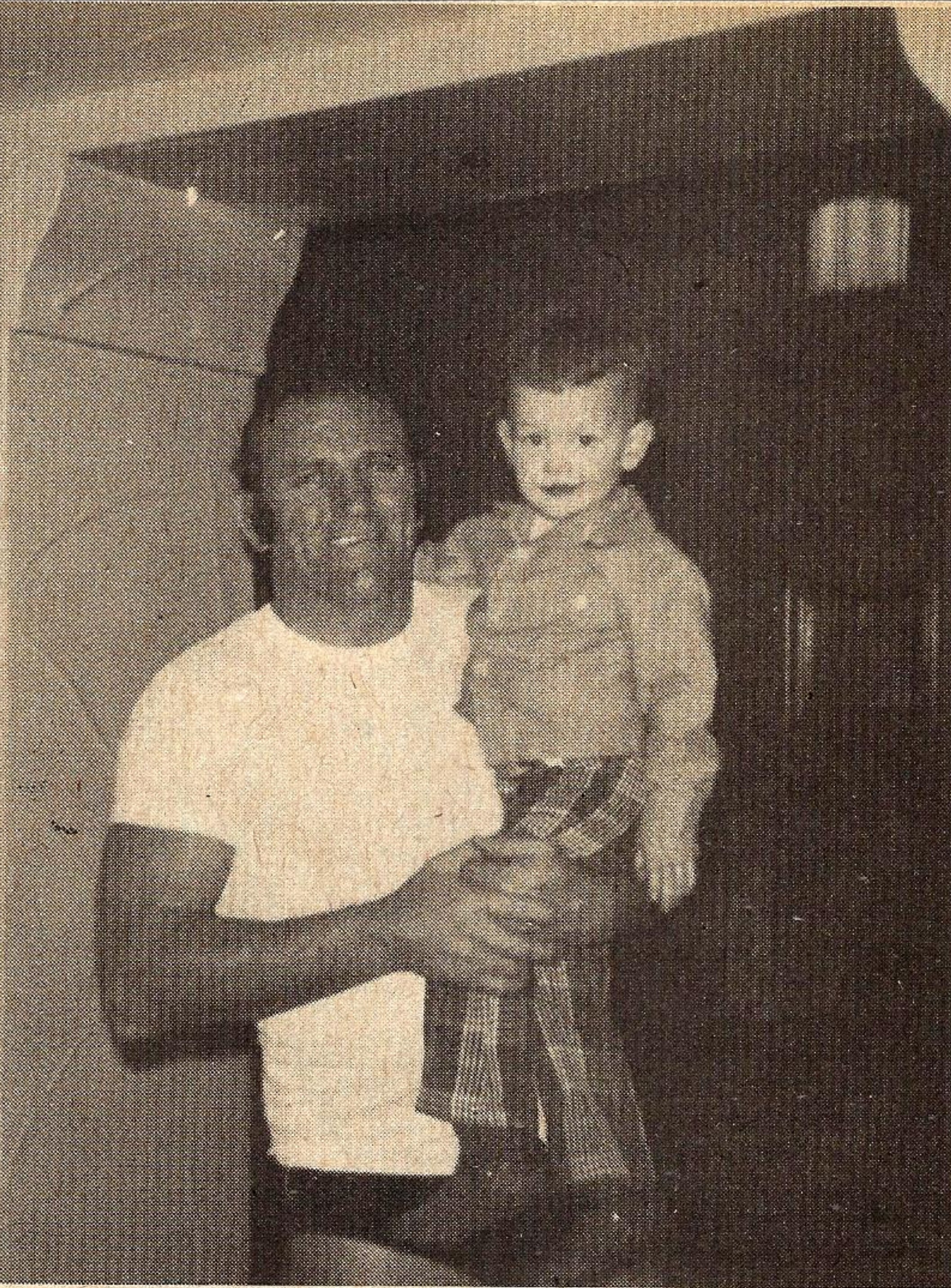
Albion held the title two years but was constantly waging a losing battle of increased poundage. Trying to maintain the limit probably cost him the crown, having been beaten by Dude Chick to Cheyenne in San Francisco in 1937.

Dude was the brother of Bobby Chick, who once held the world's



LeRoy McGurk held the championship for 10 years before an automobile accident cut short his career because of resulting blindness. McGurk is now successful promoting in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

LIMIT AT 190 BACK IN 30'S WAS TOO LOW



Danny Hodge, who held the title three different times, holds one of his youngest fans, three-year old Cody Cisco.

light heavyweight championship, and after taking the junior title, he moved to Hollywood.

Dude became a good friend of Gene Autry and held onto his title until 1937 when he faced a former Marine sergeant in Bob Kenaston in San Diego.

The new champ was a rough and tumble brawler from Gold Hill, Oregon who managed to hold onto his crown for two years until being dethroned by John Swenski of Lynn, Mass., in a knock-down, drag-out match in the Tulsa Coliseum in January, 1939.

Swenski was the perfect blend of speed and scientific wrestling and turned back repeated challenges until 1940 when he collided with Leroy McGurk.

McGurk had won the light heavyweight title from Nichols but had outgrown the division. Leroy was an all-time wrestling great at Oklahoma State University and he defeated Swenski in the Hollywood Legion Stadium.

Leroy reigned for 10-years — the

ALBION BRITT BECAME FIRST KING IN '34

longest in the division's history — but he had to relinquish the title after being seriously injured in a auto crash in 1951 and ultimately losing his sight.

The National Wrestling Association named McGurk's home town — Tulsa — as the site for an elimination tournament to determine the injured champion's successor.

Verne Gagne, a former Olympic and college All-American, ascended to the throne when he defeated Sonny Myers of St. Joseph, Mo., in a hard fought match.

Gagne was virtually unbeatable

but he was still growing and after two years as the top man, he soared well over 200 pounds.

Verne got his weight down for a defense against Danny McShain in Memphis in 1953 obviously weakened, Gagne was beaten by the transplanted Californian before 10,000 fans in the Municipal Auditorium.

McShain had style, color and dash and went on to become one of the division's most exciting personalities. The Arkansas-born grappler finally lost the crown to Baron Leone of Brazzi, Italy in 1954 in Hollywood.

Television was making big inroads in pro wrestling and Leone became one of the most popular men ever seen in video action.

Southern California stations were the first to put wrestling on TV and then sent the kinescope version to such cities as Chicago, Atlanta, Memphis, Kansas City and New York.

Leone became a super gate attraction and steadily fattened his bankroll. However, he suffered a neck injury prior to risking his crown against Ed Francis in 1956.

The Italian was beaten by Francis in Tulsa and decided to retire, now making his home in Santa Monica.

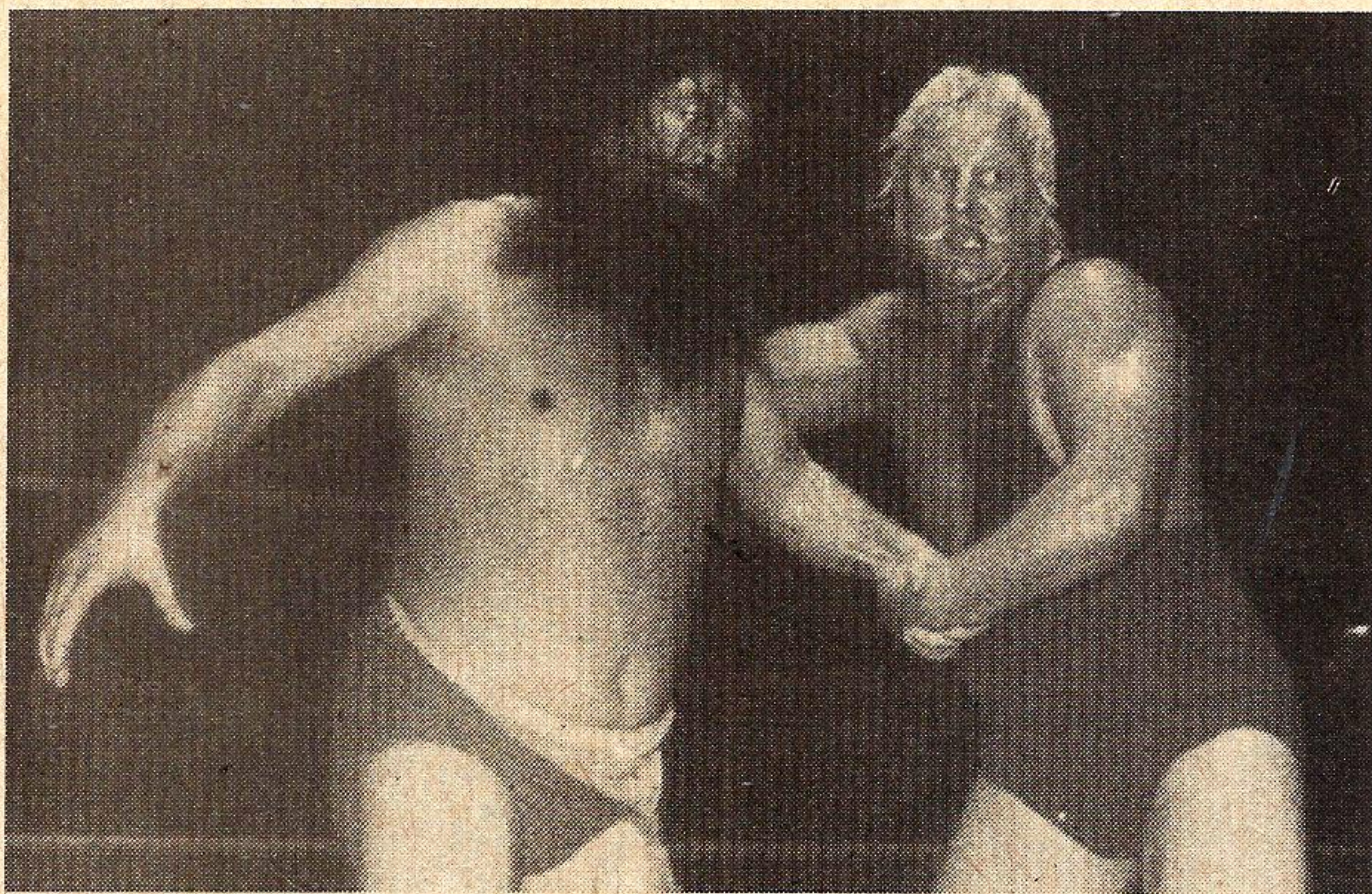
The Baron is remembered for his match with Lou Thesz for the world's heavyweight championship which was promoted by Johnny Doyle in Gilmore Stadium, the then home of the Los Angeles Angels of the old Pacific Coast League. A crowd of 25,000 established a record gate for that era of \$103,000. And of course, Thesz retained his crown.

Francis, who is now promoting in Hawaii, in turn lost the diadem in 1956 to Iron Mike Di Biase, former mat star at the University of Nebraska, in Oklahoma City.

Di Biase, who also was one of the greatest football players ever produced on the Cornhusker campus, also had the problem of weight and was considered in a weakened condition when he faced Irish Mike Clancy in 1957 in Little Rock.

Clancy, who now works in the Sheriff's office in his native Boston, was an outstanding junior heavyweight champion and reigned for three years until he went against Angelo Savoldi in Oklahoma City.

It was a real donnybrook, as



Rip Kirby prepares to slam Black Angus Campbell into the rope buckles.

GAGNE, LEONE GAVE UP TITLE DUE TO POUNDS

were subsequent return matches, but Savoldi won and retained the title for two years.

Danny Hodge, a three-time National A.A.U. and triple N.C.A.A. kingpin, emerged on the scene in 1960 and became the successor to Savoldi.

However, before returning to the mat permanently, Hodge tried his hand at boxing and won 39 amateur fights including the National Golden Gloves heavyweight title.

McGurk and instrumental in Hodge's return to wrestling and it was a wise move as he defeated Savoldi in June, 1960.

Hodge held the title through 1964 and then one night ran afoul of the Japanese ace, Hiro Natsuda, in Tampa. Danny, who had once won 39 straight matches in college, didn't like the idea of losing his crown and went into a concentrated training period for a rematch.

McGurk managed to land the return in January, 1965 for the Tulsa Civic Center where 10,000 mat devotees turned out.

It was a wild, free swinging affair with the Jap champ using all his

Oriental tricks while Hodge even resorted to his knock out punch on occasions.

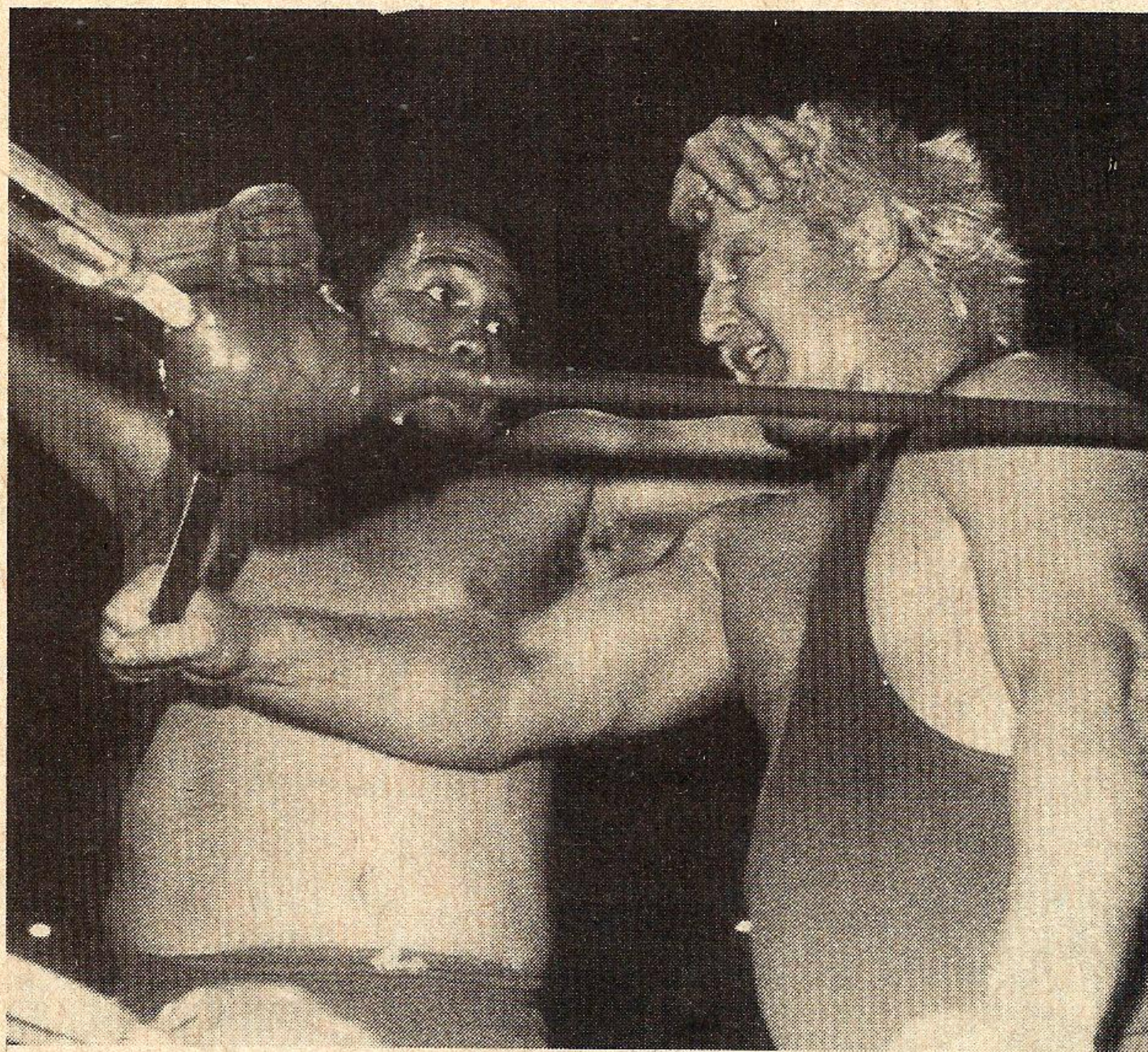
Each athlete had one fall apiece when Hodge finally managed to avenge his loss with a monkey flip and a pin to regain his crown.

Hodge began a six year tenure, repeatedly turning back all challenges until May 20, 1971 when he went against Roger "Rip" Kirby in New Orleans.

Danny was upset by the Indianapolis-born wrestler but regained the title in a rematch in February, 1972.

Hodge's third term "in office" was then interrupted by Mantell last December. However, one of the division's greatest champions ever vows to regain his lost laurels before this year is out.

And when a great competitor like Hodge is talking, you can't take his words lightly... even against a tough hombre like Ken Mantell... ●



Little Bear Danny is on the warpath here and the one taking the shots to the head is none other than Rip Kirby.



NEARING 50, STILL ON TOP

**HERE'S WHAT KEEPS MOOLAH
TRULY FABULOUS**

The Fabulous Moolah is seen here with another great champion, the late Rocky Marciano who retired undefeated in 1956 and was tragically killed in an Iowa plane crash on August, 1969.

BY JACK WELSH

The intrigue of sports, particularly in professionalism, goes far beyond the fan who pays the freight at the box office.

Contrary to popular belief, there is an intangible force engulfing many stars — perhaps even exceeding the drive to amass a fortune for future security.

ADVICE FROM MARCIANO AIDS HER CAREER

How often have you read about a popular champion who simply could not stay retired — even after fashioning achievements far beyond his wildest expectations.

Be it football, baseball, boxing, basketball, hockey, horse racing, golf or wrestling, the relentless temptations... the tumult and the shouting, the glamour, the agony, the ecstasy, the sheer drama in a moment of truth of competition... have been too much for many super stars to resist.

The greatest of the great have presented varying reasons for going a second time around, defying Father Time — the killer of all champions.

Babe Ruth swung a bat as twilight settled on his brilliance... Jim Thorpe lugged a football long after his Olympic medals were gone... Joe Louis tried to punch his way out of financial ruin... Earl Sande made a comeback 25 years past his peak... Ben Hogan had to prove he still had it after a near fatal car crash... Gordie Howe now relishes his sons as teammates and Lou Thesz seeks another mat title.

Yet the most unique champion who simply can't quit doing her thing is The Fabulous Moolah, recognized in most quarters as the current world's women wrestling queen.

The raven-haired athlete has been at the top of her profession for two decades.. she has repeatedly

turned back the challenges of young opponents... she has accumulated a sizeable fortune and, financially, there is no reason why she should still risk possible permanent injury.

Yet Moolah refuses to even discuss retirement. Perhaps she is striving for more longevity as a champion than the legendary Mildred Burke, who dominated women's wrestling from the late thirties right up until the fifties when The Fabulous One emerged explosively on the scene.

Fabulous Moolah, who was baptised Lillian Ellison in her

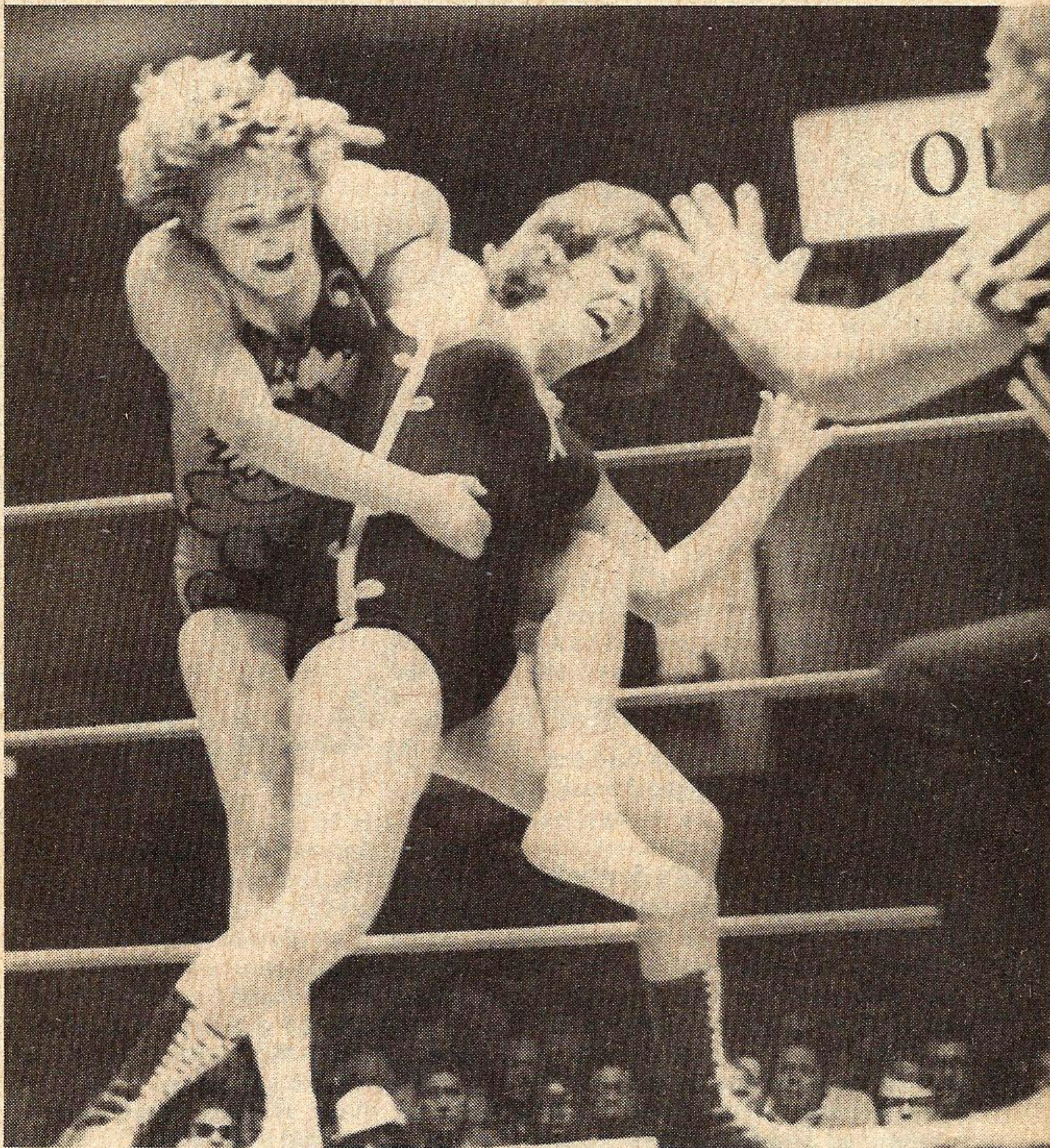
native Johannesburg, South Africa, offers her own rationale:

"If I didn't enjoy it I certainly wouldn't continue but I still like the cheers of the fans, the excitement of winning, and, of course, the money. But the biggest thrill is when I can beat a younger opponent who thinks she has the right to be called champion."

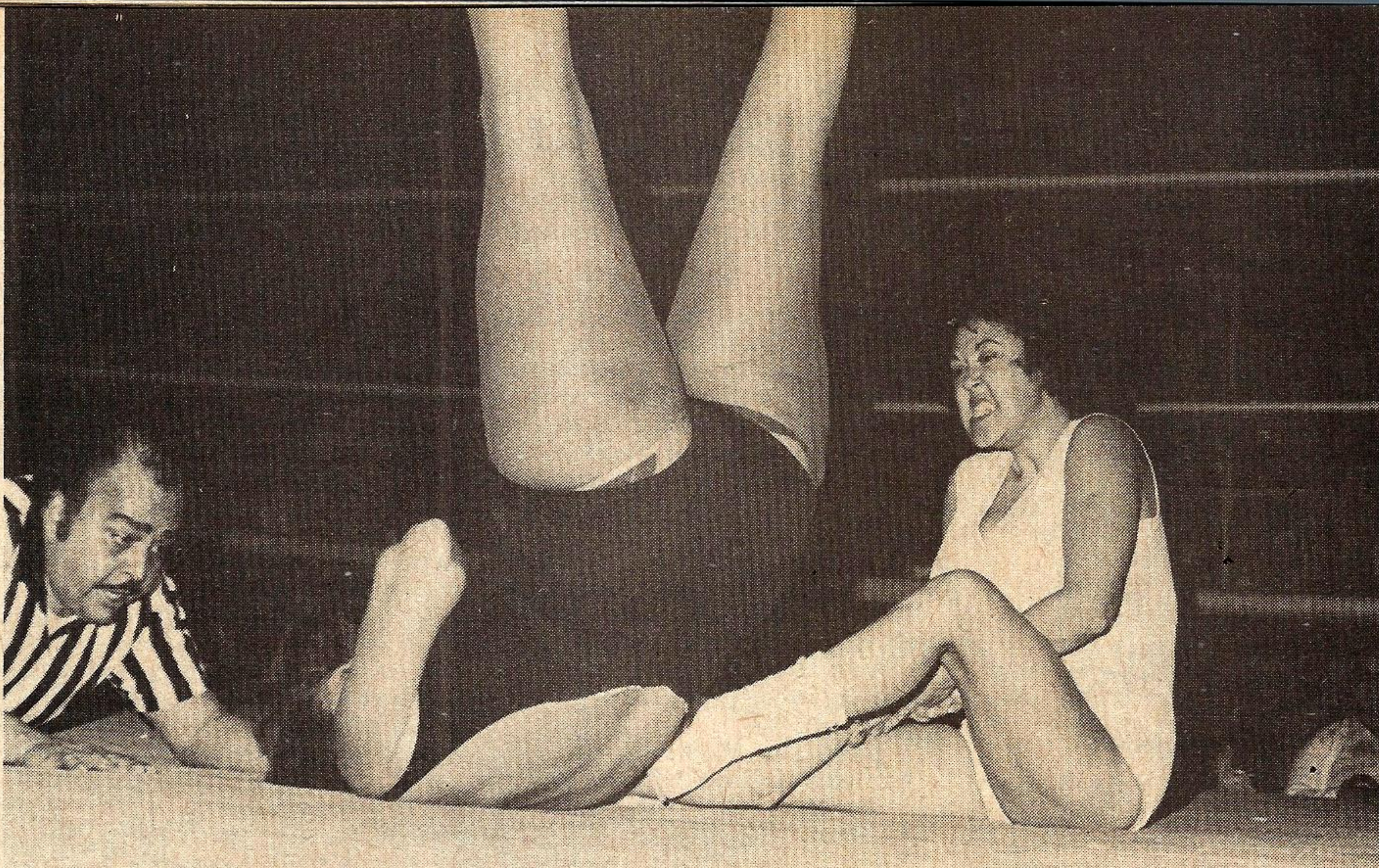
Ironically, Lillian wound up with the permanent tag of Moolah because of her oft-repeated claim she "was only in the game for the moolah" which in Americanese means — MONEY.

The Fabulous Moolah has wrestled all over the world and debuted in the sports as an assistant to a male wrestler known as Elephant Boy.

The Elephant Boy would enter the ring dressed as an Indian Prince and then Moolah would



Two archrivals who are always seeking a match with the Fabulous Moolah are Betty Niccoli (right) and Jan Antone.



One of the newer glamour girls who would like a shot at Moolah's championship is Barbi Dahl, a promising west coast star seen here flipping Bambi Ball.

come into the ring in typical harem attire and was then known as Slave Girl.

Moolah would take care of the cloak which for obvious publicity purposes—supposedly once belonged to Catherine The Great of Russia and was reputedly insured for a million dollars. The public went for it in a big way.

Moolah, in typical womanly fashion, is elusive about her age but there is no question she is stylishly nearing fifty.

Physically, The Fabulous Moolah has never been in better shape nor has she appeared so attractive and like the wine, she seems to get better with age as a performer.

The Fabulous Moolah had once said she would never retire until she had a chance to wrestle in Madison Square Garden.

A soft-spoken totally feminine person—outside the ring, Moolah will have to come up with new reasons for continuing.

In fact she has had to present brand new excuses for continuing her career since July 1, 1972. That was the date the New York Athletic Commission finally relented and permitted women wrestlers to perform in The Big Town.

"There are still a lot of states who won't let women wrestlers work but perhaps with Women's Lib continuing its strong campaign for equality with men these

nger, blonde, Vicki Williams.

Moolah had 19,512 fans on their feet screaming even though the match lasted only six minutes with the colorful champion retaining her title.

The Fabulous One recalls one of her most memorable experiences in sports occurred before a match in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

"The late Rocky Marciano was refereeing my match and we had a chance to chat for a while. He was a real gentleman... what a shame he had to die so young (Marciano was killed in August, 1969 in a plane crash in Iowa at the age of 46). We got on the subject about athletes facing the problem of retirement and Rocky had some very sound philosophy."

Moolah recalls the meeting like it was 10 minutes ago.

"Marciano had returned a few months before — this was late in 1956—and he explained exactly why he had stepped down. First, it appeared there were no new worlds for him to conquer — he had just about run out of opponents. But even more important it was his family — he wanted to spend more time with his family — seeing his little girl grow up."

The Fabulous Moolah also



provincial-minded commissions will back down and give us the green light."

The Fabulous Moolah contends gal grapplers can be as exciting in action as their male counterparts and in some instances even more aggressive.

There is no question the sometimes blase New Yorkers went hook, line and sinker for The Fabulous Moolah when, she risked her championship against a you-

added that perhaps a word of advice from the Brockton Blockbuster has been instrumental in keeping her active as a wrestler.

"Rocky said a person who has his good health and enjoys what he is doing should never think about retiring. Well, as I said before, I still get a big kick out of the sport and I am in top flight condition."

Moolah still maintains an excellent figure, she never smokes or drinks and is in the gym working out when she doesn't have a match.

There is no question The Fabulous Moolah's popularity knows no bounds — east, west, north and south — the skies are the limit and the fans go crazy when she enters the ring.

"I am sure the reactions of the fans is one of the things that keeps me going. I really love the cheers of the people but there have been some places where I have been booed but not very often."

The current ratings released this month to WRESTLING REVUE (see page) place Moolah at the top of the list followed by Vivian Vachon, Mary Jane Mull, Cora Combs and Kay Noble.

The Fabulous Moolah looks at today's young women wrestlers objectively.

"There is a good crop coming up and they come from all walks of life and from every area. However, the young girls should be sure they learn all the basics of wrestling and are not just another pretty face. Looks are important at the box office but people also pay to see good wrestlers."

Moolah isn't bragging but she argues that there is nothing to beat experience... not even youth, looks and enthusiasm ... in pro wrestling.

"I know there are lot of girls in the United States who think they could beat me but they had better pray that I retire — that's the only way I'm going to lose my championship."

Although the National Wrestling Alliance and the American Wrestling Association doesn't recognize any women's world champions, The Fabulous Moolah is generally considered by the fans and experts as the Queen in those areas governed by these associations.

Typical of the new generation

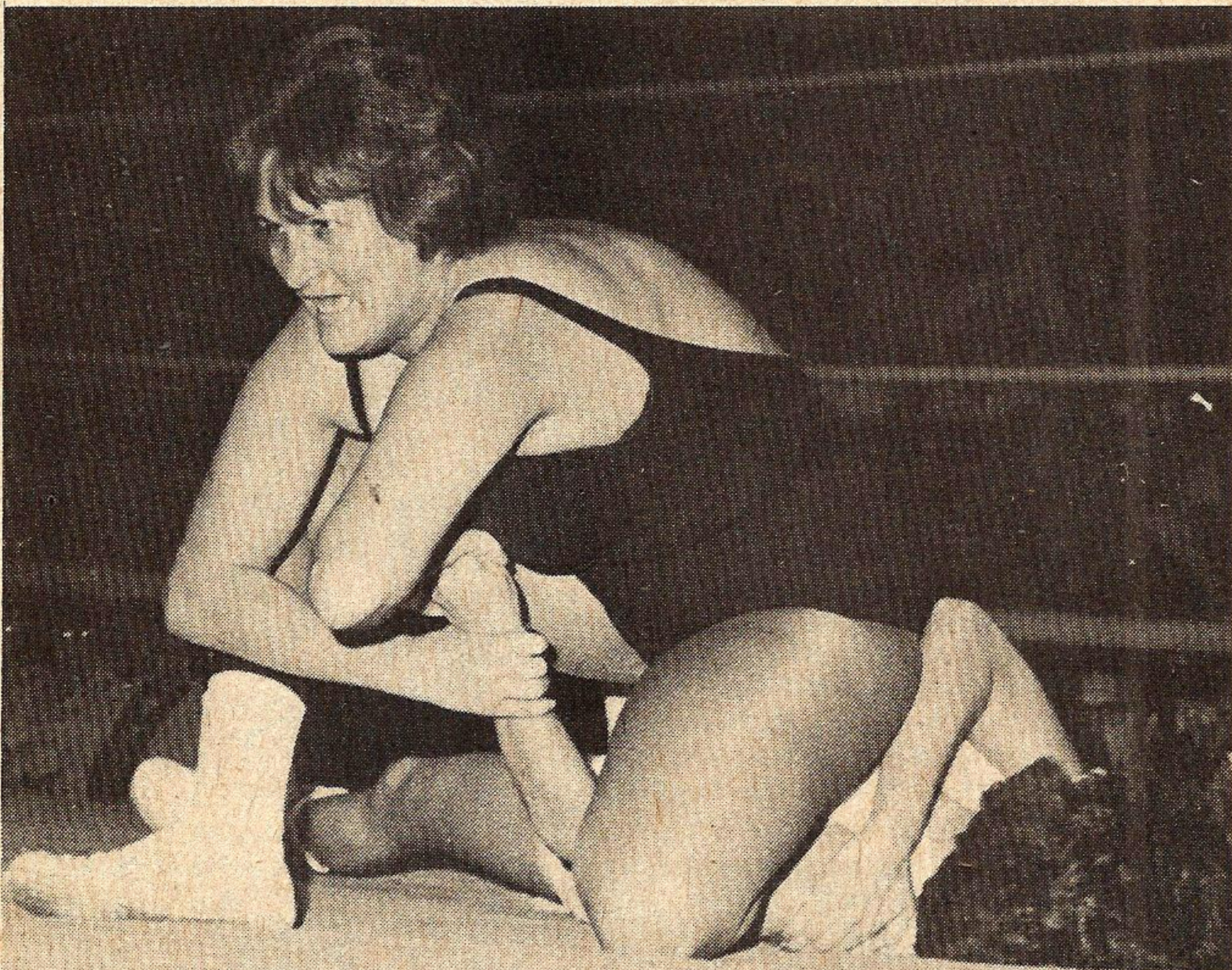
SEES NO BIG THREAT FROM YOUNG STARS

back in her native Indianapolis.

When she decided to become a distaff wrestler, Barbi quit her job and headed west to be under Miss Burke's tutelage.

Weighing only 120 pounds, Miss Dahl is about 20 pounds lighter than Moolah but she certainly matches the latter's physical attributes with measurements of 40-24-26.

"I know Fabulous Moolah is one of the greatest wrestlers who has ever competed but I am looking forward to the day when I have a chance to meet her in the ring. My ambition is to be a world champion and I know I'll



Bambi Ball has Barbi Dahl at an extreme disadvantage here as she puts on the pressure with her own version of the wristlock.

of women wrestlers is Barbi Dahl, who is a protege of Mildred Burke in Reseda, California.

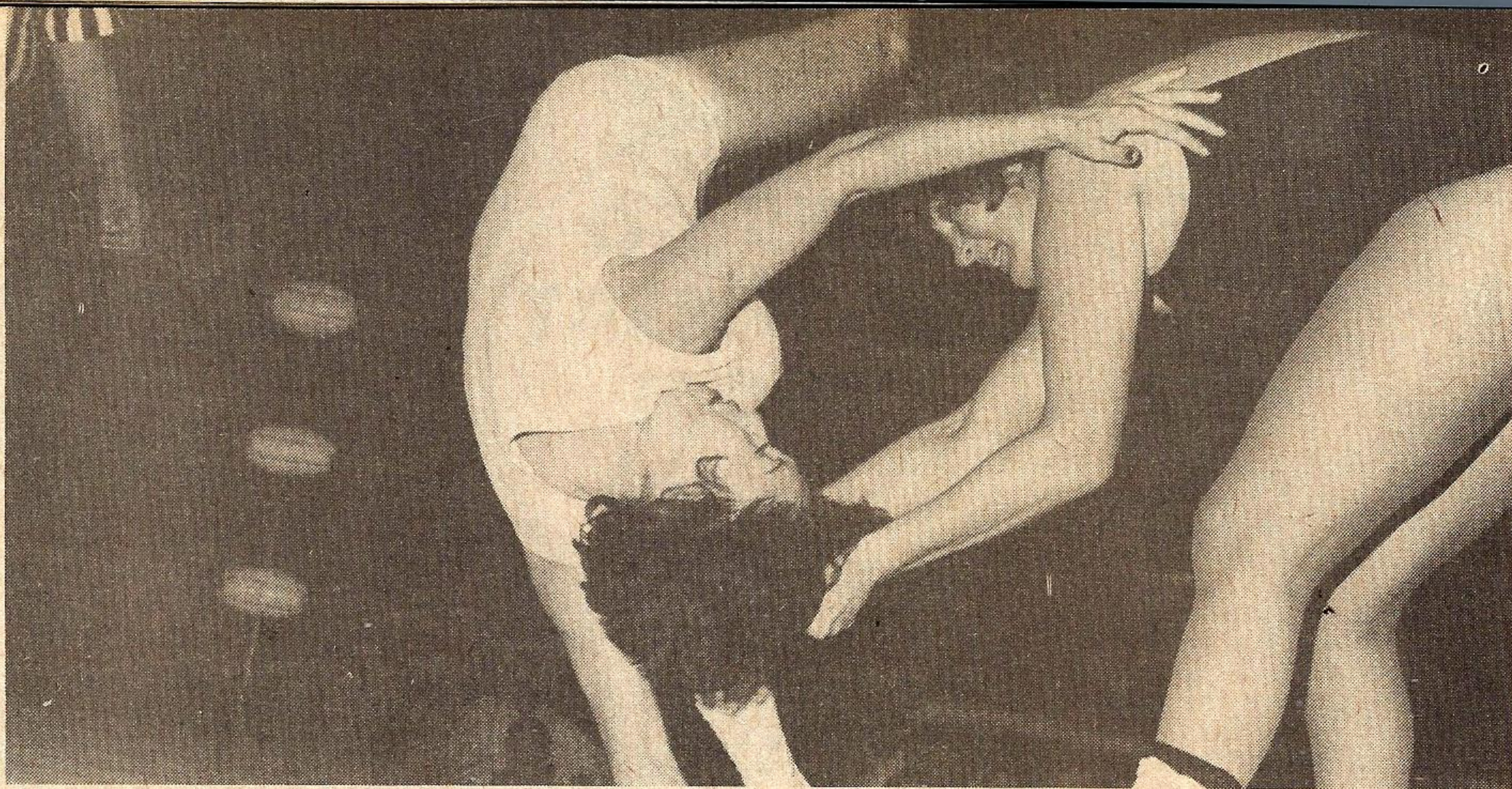
"I have never seen her wrestle but I understand she is improving and has exceptional good moves for a comparative newcomer. However, Miss Dahl must know that you can't do it overnight in any sport. When she deserves a title match, I'll meet her anytime, any place."

Barbi Dahl has always admired the Fabulous Moolah ever since the wrestling bug bit her

have to beat Moolah to achieve that goal."

Mildred Burke was ready to call it a great career when Moolah was breaking in but she has seen her wrestle many times and no doubt has imparted some of her knowledge to Barbi on the grand champion's ring generalship and style.

The west coast would be a natural for a Moolah-Barbi confrontation since both wrestlers have been highly popular with Southern California fans.



Bambi has a handful of hair and she isn't about to let go as she flips Barbi and only moments later scored the winning pin.

"To me wrestling in a sport but it also is a business, I prefer the scientific style but if I have to, I can be as mean as anybody. Maybe with Moolah I would have to be extra rough because I know she goes all out to win," Barbi said.

Miss Dahl has been having a running feud with Bambi Ball on the coast, winning more than she has been losing.

"She's a rough gal and I think I have learned something new in every match we have had. But the tougher my future opponents are — the better I will be prepared when the day comes that I

**BARBI
DAHL
NEW BREED
AS
CHALLENGER**

get a shot at Moolah's title."

Everybody wants a shot at The Fabulous One but right now her archrival appears to be Princess War Star, reputedly the highest paid American woman wrestler and considered by many as the true world champion.

"If War Star is the highest paid wrestler the promoter have to operate at a loss because I know how much I make and I'm sure there is no way she could top it."

War Star as the champion?

"Anybody can claim a championship but there is only one way to get it and that's in the ring. Anytime she wants a match with me and the price is right, tell her to come on ahead. I'll run her right back to that reservation in New Mexico."

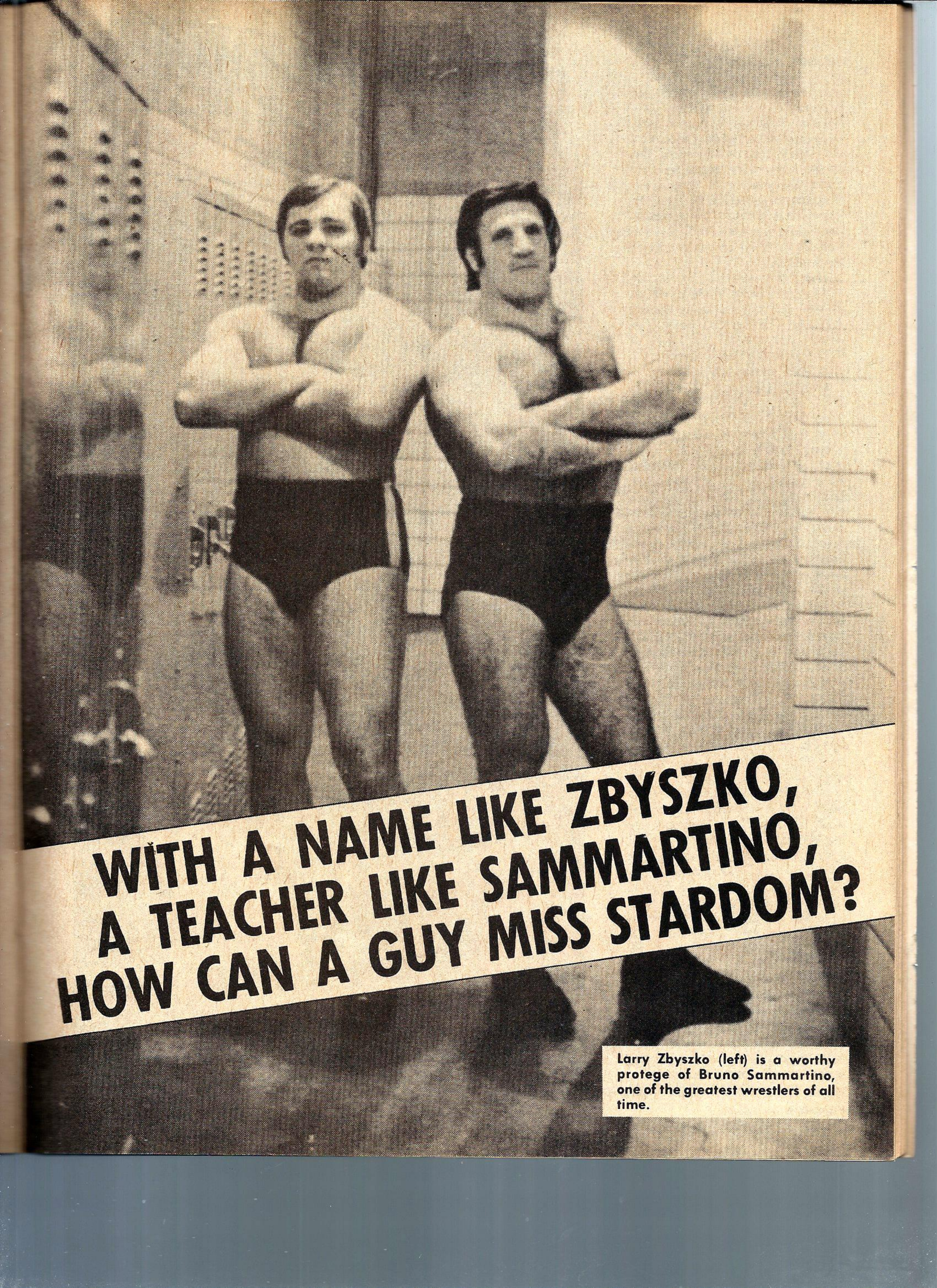
Future romance and possible marriage?

"I'm not married right now but I have an interesting social life. I'll probably marry in the future but I'm sure I'll wait till I retire. I don't think it would be fair to the man because there is so much travelling in this business that you don't have much time for a home life."

That declaration is good news for The Fabulous Moolah's vast following but certainly bad news for any ardent swain who wants her hand in marriage — the way she is going big as life itself right now he may be a centenarian before making that walk up the aisle...



Barbi Dahl has beaten Bambi Ball before but not on this particular night and perhaps the Hoosier-born beauty might be wondering if the same thing would happen if she ever faces The Fabulous Moolah.



**WITH A NAME LIKE ZBYSZKO,
A TEACHER LIKE SAMMARTINO,
HOW CAN A GUY MISS STARDOM?**

Larry Zbyszko (left) is a worthy
protege of Bruno Sammartino,
one of the greatest wrestlers of all
time.

BY GILDA DIRADOO

"Are you a believer in astrology?" The question I threw at Larry Zbyszko kind of took him back for a moment.

"Why" he replied. "Because according to your birth date, December 5, you are a Sagittarius and I was wondering if all people born under that sign were as fortunate as you have been in your chosen profession".

Only 22 years old, he has already established himself as one of the top up and coming wrestlers in the business. You really can't give the stars or any heavenly body credit for this man's success.

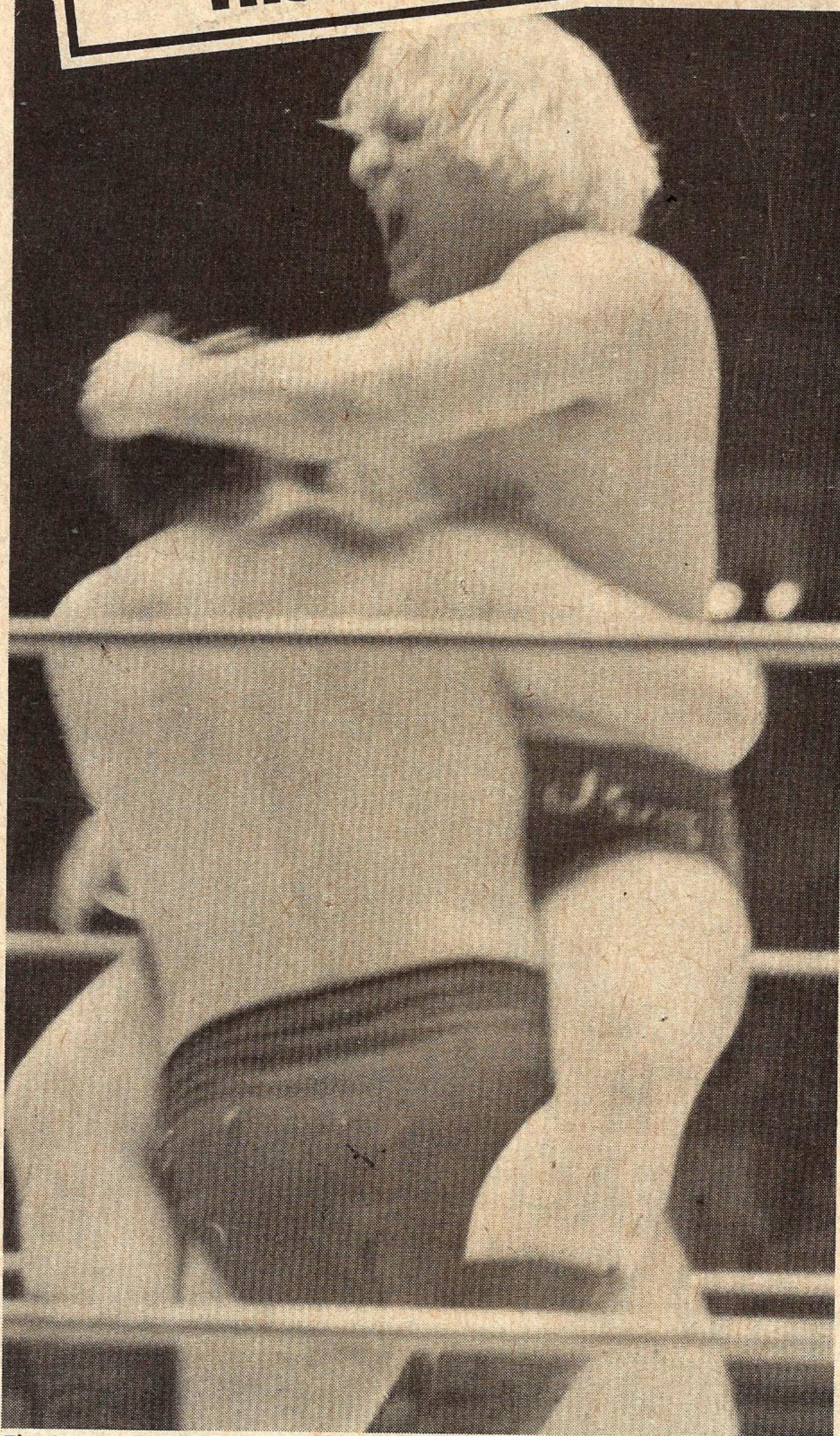
Born in Chicago, Illinois, in 1951, his parents moved to North Hill district of Pittsburgh when he was still a young lad. From the time he was able to think for himself he wanted to be a wrestler. While attending high school, his sports were football and wrestling but he dropped the football so that he could devote one hundred percent of his time to wrestling.

When Zbyszko wasn't eating, sleeping, or at his studies he could be found in the gymnasium wrestling. Twice Larry went to the Pennsylvania State finals and was awarded a wrestling scholarship at Penn State University. Undeclared his first year at college — he transferred to a Pittsburgh campus to be near his new found friend Bruno Sammartino.

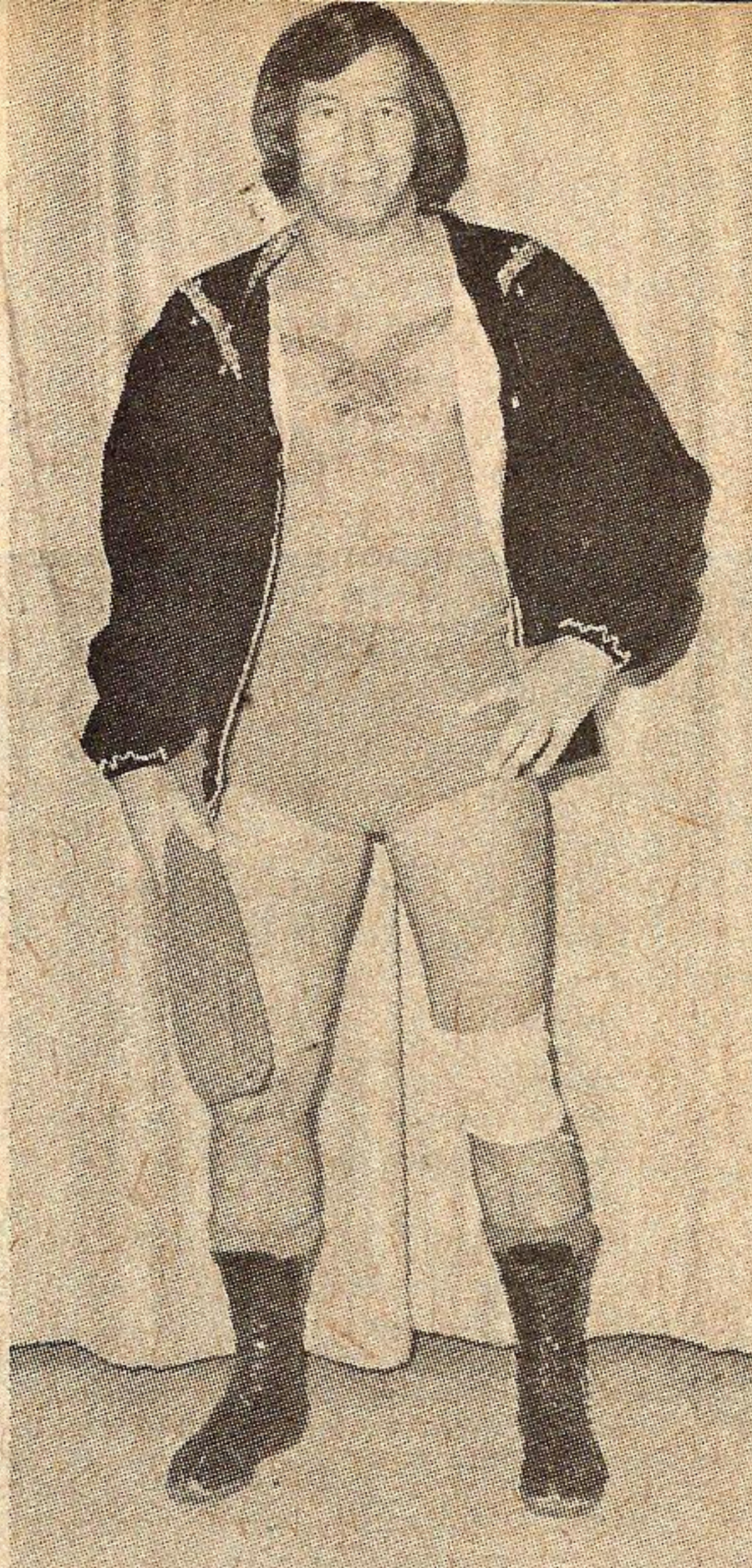
Now if you were to ask anybody who knew Bruno personally you would find only glowing reports that he's a real gentleman of professional wrestling. Sammartino has helped more people in wrestling than he would allow you to believe. Larry couldn't have picked anyone nicer as his hero.

Once he was situated in Pittsburgh, Bruno took him under his wing. Showing him the proper weights to use and the training that would benefit him the most as a wrestler. And then the day that brings most of the adrenalin in a young tyro's body to a boil. He

BRUNO TAUGHT 22-YEAR OLD ALL HIS TRICKS



The 22-year old Zbyszko uses all his strength in applying a bearhug on John L. Sullivan.



Johnny Eagle, British-born, is making a big hit with California fans.

say or think. The fans think I'm unusual because I wrestle in any way I can and because I have a different type of diet. Well, I remain healthy that way, and that's all that counts. Furthermore, I make money wrestling — plenty of it — and the promoters always want me on their cards because they know I draw those stupid fans into the arenas."

"No one has ever defeated me. I'm big, fast and very strong and I win my matches in any way I can. No other wrestler has all these abilities."

The fact Mayne hit it big the day he arrived here is hardly false information. True, he is strong, big and fast and is the champion but the fact the fans hate him is something he seldom mentions. Like he couldn't care less.

Johnny Eagle arrived on the West Coast a few months ago and he is steadily rising to the top of the ratings and is winning the fans' popularity. Born in London, England, Eagle weighs 236 pounds and stands 5'11" and strictly knows how to wrestle.

"I thoroughly enjoy wrestling throughout Northern California," Eagle admits. "The fans

are wonderful, the wrestlers are highly capable, the money is good and the weather is beautiful. This is my first time for being in these areas and I like it. The fans seemed to give me a warm welcome on my West Coast debut in the Cow Palace and I appreciated it."

"I would like the fans to understand one thing, and particularly the readers of this magazine. I enjoy wrestling by the rules with consideration for my opponent, whoever he may be. That's one of the reasons the fans seem to like and admire me. Nowadays, wrestlers are bigger and much rougher than ever before. Not just in wrestling, but in all professional contact sports. Look at ice hockey, roller derby and football. Those sports get rougher with every game. It's nothing for

broke the rules from the start, like Mayne, Kinji Shibuya, Kurt and Karl Von Brauner and a few others, that I would be looked upon in the same manner as they are. I don't want that to happen. I have prestige and lots of self-esteem. I honestly believe the wrestlers I named don't have either."

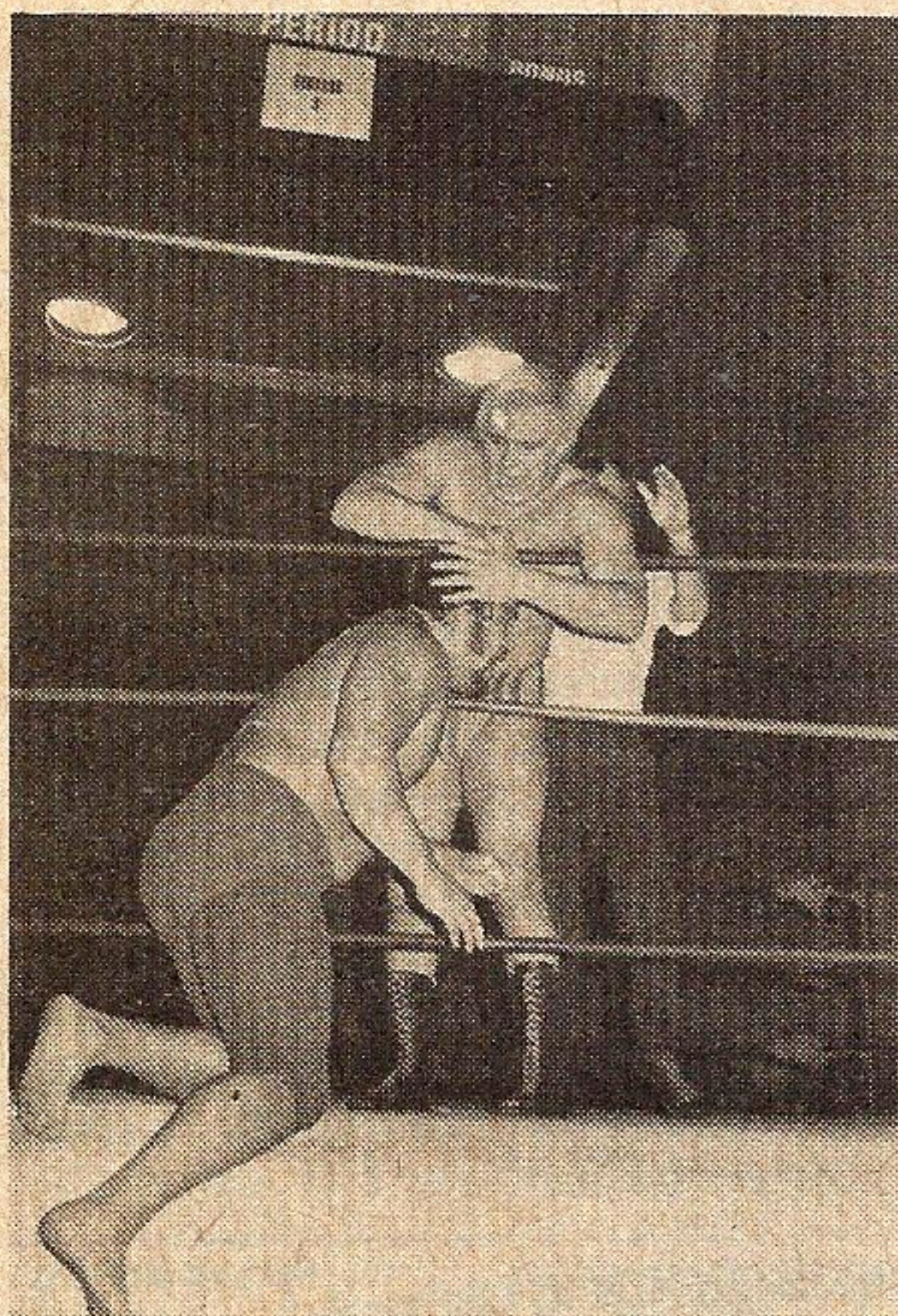
Eagle is a newcomer to the area and hopefully he'll choose to stay a while.

Referee Frank Nocety had a few comments for this columnist concerning his job as a referee.

"I overheard Johnny Eagle talking," Frank stated. "I agree with him wholeheartedly. I've refereed several of Johnny's matches and I think he's going places and has lots of talent."

"I've been a referee for almost twenty years, and I was a wrestler before that," Frank in-

MAYNE WELL HATED, MAIVIA WELL LOVED



Pat Patterson, another west coast hero, gives rough treatment to Japanese star, Mr. Saito.

a player to "throw in the old elbow," as they say. The same goes for wrestling. I've been in this business for several years now and I've learned through experience that wrestlers will break every rule they can while they can."

"I knew, however, that if I

formed. "So, I know what I talk about when I speak on particular wrestlers in specific or wrestling in general. For one thing, I agree with Johnny that wrestlers today are rougher and meaner and bigger than before. Twenty years ago, a wrestler, or any athlete for

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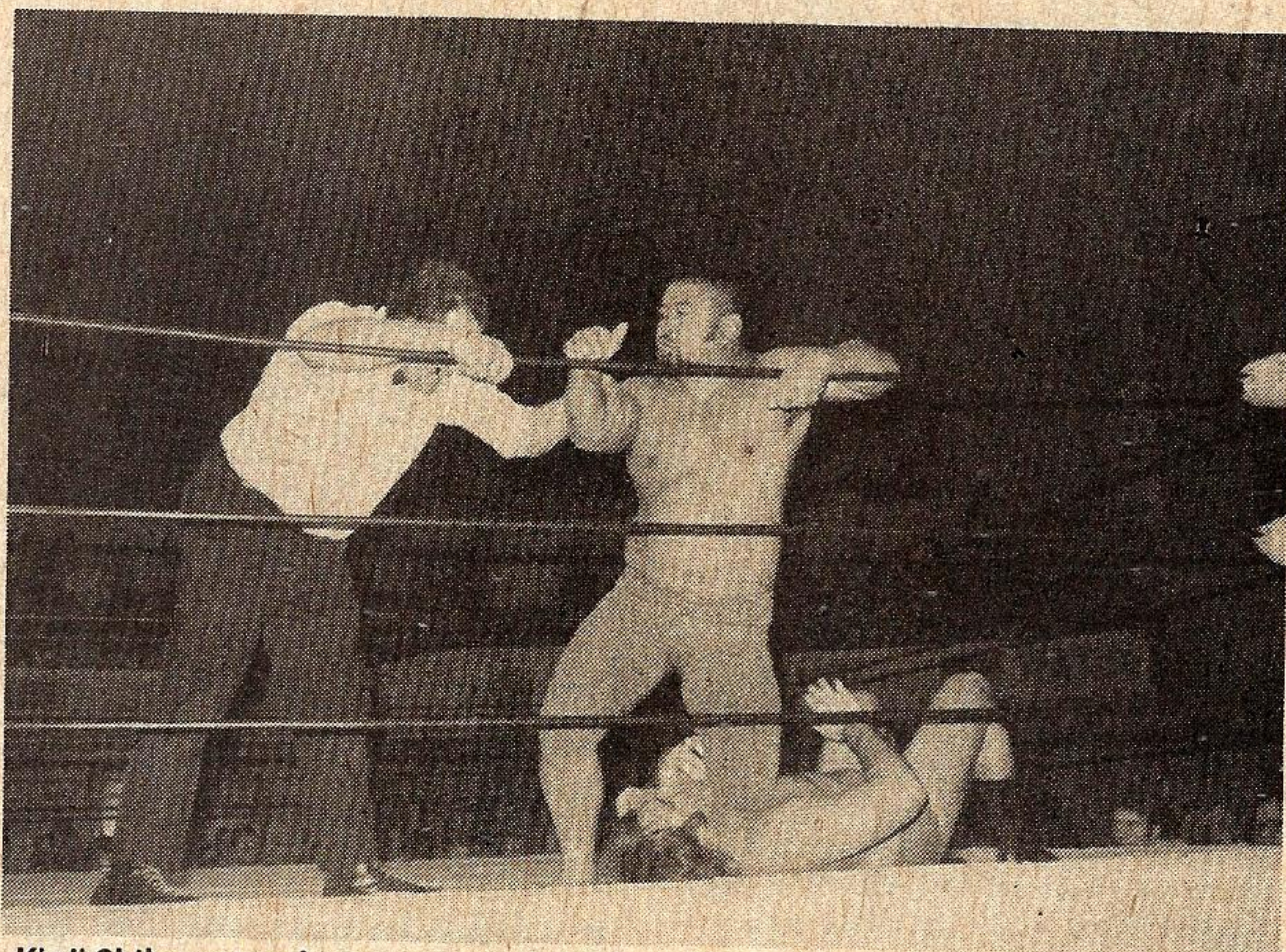
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that matter, was considered very big if he was 6'2" and weighed 300 pounds. Nowadays, we have men 6'4" and 6'5" weighing 300 and 400 pounds. If you weigh under 225, you're not going to succeed in pro wrestling or pro football, I know that right now."

"I've refereed matches in many arenas throughout the country and let me say right now that a referee's job is one of the hardest. Even Promoter Roy Shire will vouch for me on that. I only have two eyes and I certainly don't have any in the back of my head. I can't see everything that goes on."

"A referee in wrestling is like a judge in court. Both the judge and the referee have to see it for it to count. Let's say Rocky Johnson is wrestling Mr. Saito. If Saito uses karate and I couldn't see it, regardless what the fans or Johnson say, it won't count. I can only warn or disqualify a wrestler if I see him do wrong. The same goes for a policeman. If two kids run up to an officer and the redheaded kid says he was hit by the blond boy, what is the offi-

MOONDOG SAYS HE HATES ALL MAT DEVOTEES



Kinji Shibuya works over an opponent as referee Frank Nocety gives the count.

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cer to do? Certainly he can't take the blond boy into juvenile hall, right?"

"The same goes here. All referees are licensed by the state athletic commission and they have to pass a physical, and a test. It's hard, believe me. I'm wise and honest in the ring and if I see a wrestler break the rules and I've warned him to stop and he doesn't, under most conditions I'll disqualify him. The doctor has the right to check a wrestler at any time during the match when the referee tells him to, and if the ringside physician tells me he is cut or hurt too badly to continue, naturally I'll stop the

match. Otherwise, only I have the right to stop or start a match when I feel it's necessary."

"Let me also point out that I can stop the match at any time if the fans are throwing too many objects in the ring. This can be dangerous. Referee Jack Hollaway received an eye injury from an object thrown into the ring by a fan sitting in the balcony at a recent match. The police escorted the man who threw it, out of the arena and he was prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. This type of action by the fans is uncalled for."

"A few years ago the main event was taking place and the fans began throwing cups, beer bottles, and objects into the ring. After a while, I had the announcer warn the fans that if anything else was thrown into the ring, I would have the match stopped and there would be no refunds. They continued throwing things after a while, so I had the timekeeper ring the bell and I stopped the match, called it a "no-contest" and that was it for the night. The fans were disappointed, naturally, but they were warned and that was that."

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Promoter Louie Miller brought big time wrestling back to Antioch, California a few months ago and his first card was a sell-out. It was held in the Contra Costa County Fairgrounds Arena and he had all of wrestling's topnotchers on the card. It was in Antioch a couple of years ago when young Ron Pritchard made his wrestling debut for promoter Miller. Pritchard now is playing professional football and may return to wrestling soon.

Now, Miller still is promoting tremendous main events in Richmond's Memorial Auditorium on occasional Saturday nights, in Antioch's Fairgrounds Arena once a month on Saturday nights, in the Stockton Civic Auditorium generally every other Tuesday night, and with Promoter Roy Shire in the Sacramento Auditorium every other Wednesday night.

Action is great on the West Coast and it's only because the promoters bring in nothing but the top talent for the fans. The fans want action and on the West Coast, that's what they get.

EAGLE'S USE OF SCIENCE HELPS IMAGE

Incidentally, the gasoline situation throughout the United States seems to be getting worse and worse and 25 years ago our country went through the same problems. In those days, there still were wrestling matches and the fans turned out at all arenas for big time wrestling. If our gasoline situation gets worse and gasoline becomes more scarce, check the newspapers and television for the upcoming dates and matches at your favorite arena and check on the public transportation available from your area to the arena. At this time there are greater wrestlers than ever before and wrestling is better than ever!

That wraps up another column, we'll see you in the next fantastic issue of the WORLD'S largest selling wrestling magazine, WRESTLING REVUE. ●

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J.B. PSYCHO

GREW UP WITH CHICKENS

BUT BEATING BEAR

MADE HIM A PRO

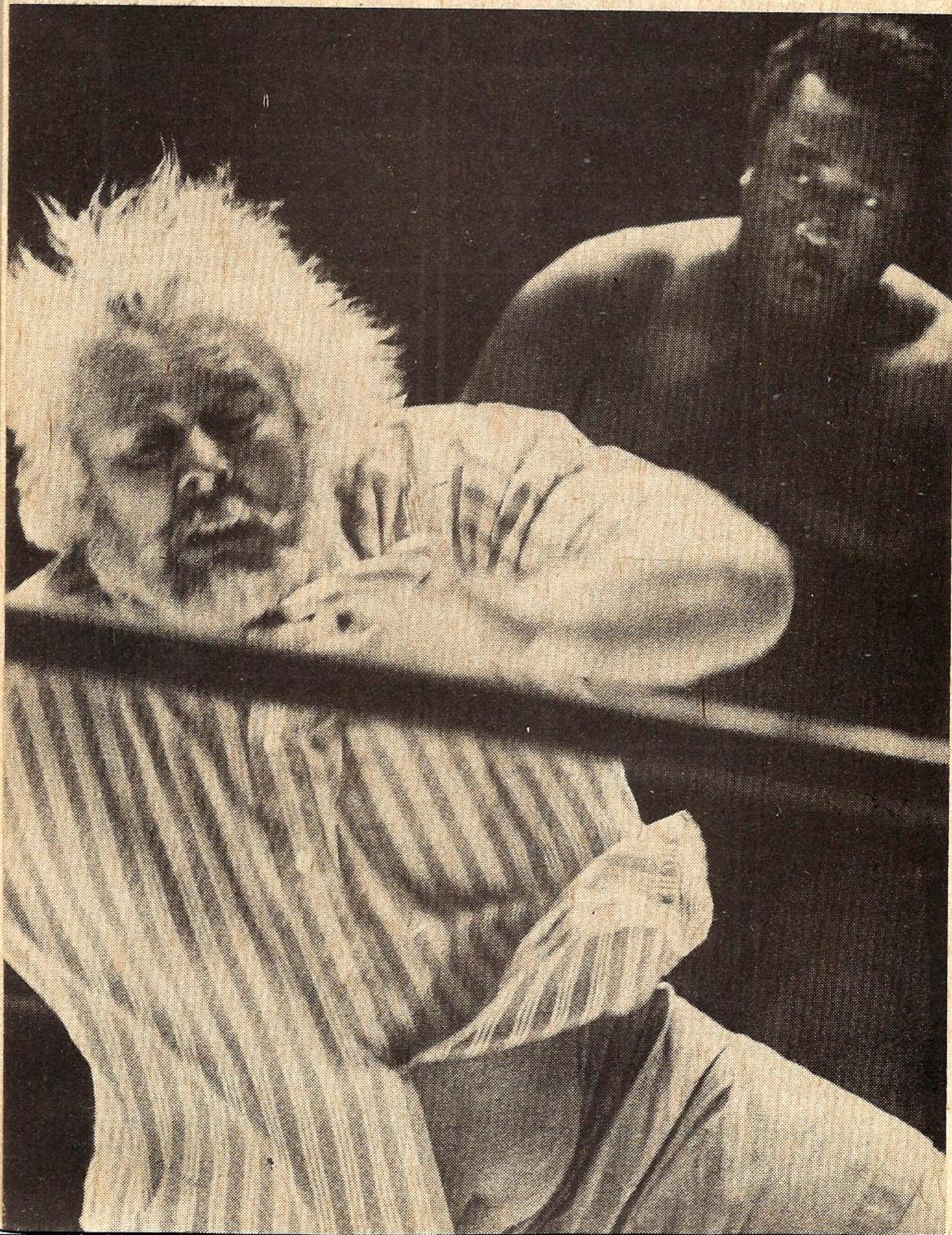
BY TODD JONES

Take a wrestler named J.B. He enters the ring like something this side of fruit and nutsville and the fans think his style of wrestling is a little wacky, so they call him psycho, and guess what, he loves it. So J.B. Psycho is born.

This happens quite frequently. The fans will tag a name he is stuck with. But it goes a lot deeper than that. You have to go back to a farm in Cut and Shoot, Texas, where J.B. was born. To say that J.B.'s parents were average is being more than kind and certainly being very gracious.

Because the farm was located in such a remote area, J.B. grew up with the farm animals as playmates and friends. At the age of four he was 80 pounds and his vocabulary consisted of more grunts than words. His kindergarten lessons consisted of walking through the pig slop and chasing cows.

But you can't miss what you don't have, so the family was happy. It was a day when J.B. was around eight years old that his parents first noticed that he was not like other boys his age. When his father looked out the window he couldn't believe his eyes. He called for J.B.'s mother and she confirmed what he saw, there was the future Psycho carrying a fifty pound bag of feed on his shoulders.



J.B. Psycho winces with pain after being decked by rugged Hank James who used brass knuckles on the wild man.

J.B. was fourteen when he had his first taste of what he could do with his great strength. The posters had been up on poles and fences for three months. A carnival was coming to town and all the farmers were saving their pennies for the gala affair. Most would go just to look around. It was an exciting event and really the only break from a hard summer's work in the fields. Finally the big day arrived and it was off to the carnival. The rides, the noise, the excitement. J.B. couldn't wait.

Mom and Pop were walking around the midway when they noticed a large crowd gathered at one of the attractions. Pausing to see what all the commotion was about, they were surprised to see a huge bear. The barker, shouting at the top of his voice "Anybody who can wrestle and beat the bear in five minutes will get a hundred dollars."

"A hundred dollars" J.B.'s father exclaimed, "He must be plum crazy, there ain't that much money in the whole world."

J.B. wanted to wrestle the bear. "Listen pop" he said, "if I win the money, you can retire and never have to work again." A smile crossed his Dad's lips. "He ain't that farfetched that he don't love his old dad."

**RAGGY
CLOTHES,
ZANY
MANNERS
DELIGHT
FANS**

GREAT POWER DEVELOPED ON TEXAS FARM

But he couldn't let him do it.

"You're only fourteen and a half. I know you're big and strong and could pass for 20 years old but I can't let you do it, son."

J.B. pleaded and begged, and finally the old man broke down and said: "Yes, go ahead, damned if you ain't as strong as twenty mules." Up on the platform he crawled and standing there in his overalls worn out at the knees, wide braces, and running shoes that had seen many a better day. The crowd gasped as the trainer let the bear loose.

Although he had a muzzle he was an aggressive and angry animal and he went straight for J.B. Now bears are natural born wrestlers, so of course the first thing the bear did... was get a bear hug. With that J.B. grabbed the muzzle and tried to wrap his legs around the bear. But the bear was swinging him back and forth.

Then the strap on the muzzle broke and the audience groaned. The trainer started poking the bear to get his attention, but the bear was having no part of that. Then the bear made a mistake. His mouth free because of the torn muzzle, he reached his head over and bit J.B. Now J.B. had never been bit by a bear before. A few pigs, maybe a chicken, or a rattler or two, but never a bear.

So he turned around and bit the bear with all the strength he could muster in his jaws. Right on the end of the bears nose. The bear let out a yelp, let go the bear hug and started running. The crowd screaming also started running. But J.B. was not to be denied. Chasing the bear, he brought him down with a flying tackle. The bear had been beat.

"Give him the money" someone shouted. And the barker had to pay up. "Sir" the barker told J.B.'s father later, "We never seen anyone with so much courage. We are going up to Illinois, let J.B. come with us and work in the carnival." The promise of money and fame for his son and the fact that he would be taken care of, persuaded the old man to let him go.

J.B. wrestled at the carnival until he was eighteen and then he hit

the organized professional sport. Still wearing old pants and braces, with the worn running shoes, he posed an odd sight in the ring. Then when people heard him talk and watched the way he wrestled, they started calling him PSYCHO. The name stuck.

His dad died a few years back and now there is just his mom, his racoon Sweet Tree, and his dog Precious, who he loves to walk in the woods. They have another farm now, this one in Tennessee. The big city lights still bother him as he makes his way to the matches in a

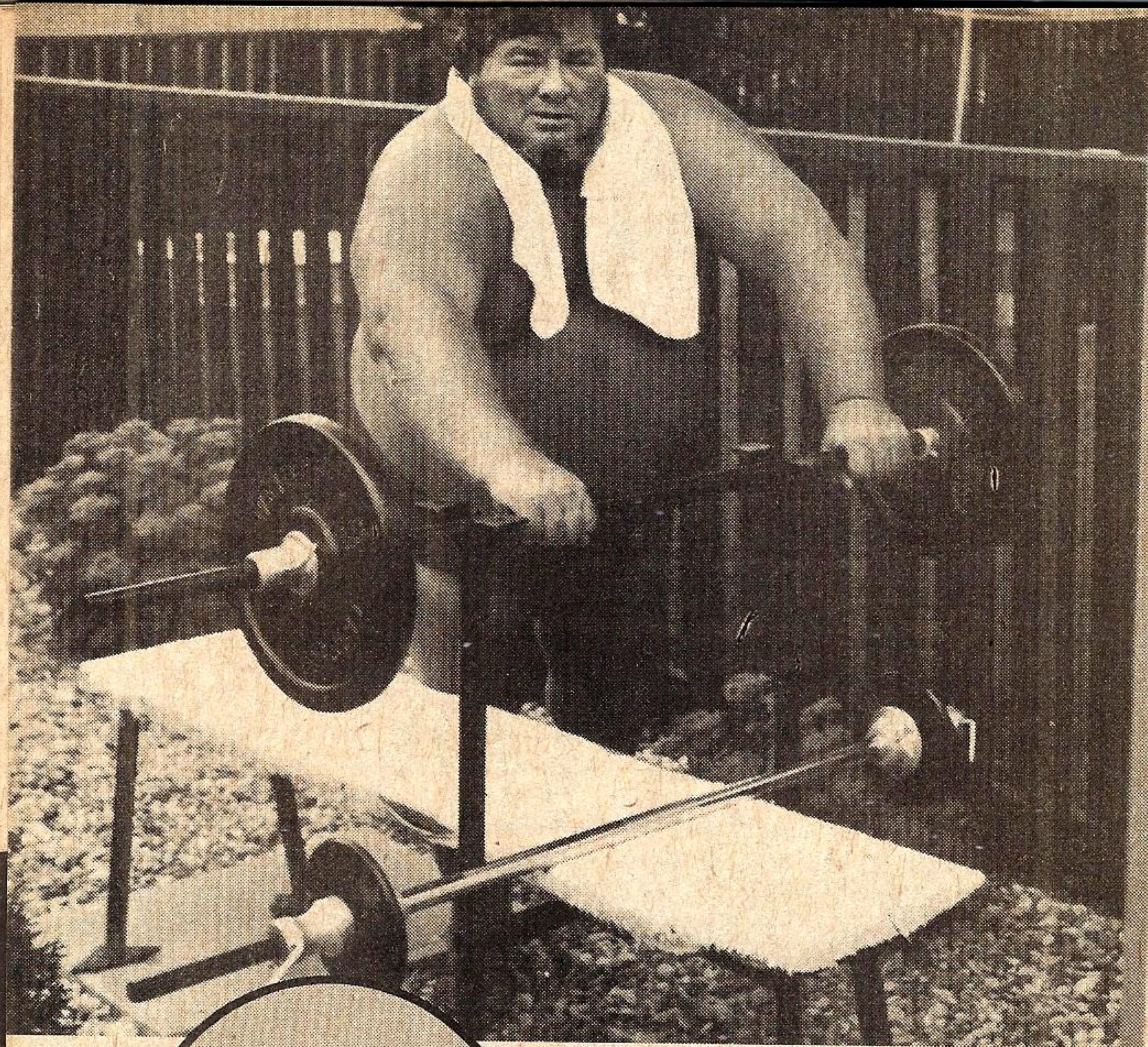
"I like to go back to the farm and chase pigs and catch fish," he told me "Mommy is afraid all alone, and she is such a good cook."

He is single and looking. His type of girl? Big, little, tall, short, thin, fat, dark, or fair. Before the match he will mix two pounds of ground round mixed with two eggs, onions, salt, and pepper, washed down with chocolate milk.

He still wears the same clothes because pants cost money. Today at five foot ten and two hundred and eighty five pounds, he is making a name for himself.

"Pop would have loved all this," he said tears welling in his eyes. "He used to call me Psycho too."

**BIT
GRIZZLY'S
NOSE,
TACKLED
ANIMAL
TO WIN**

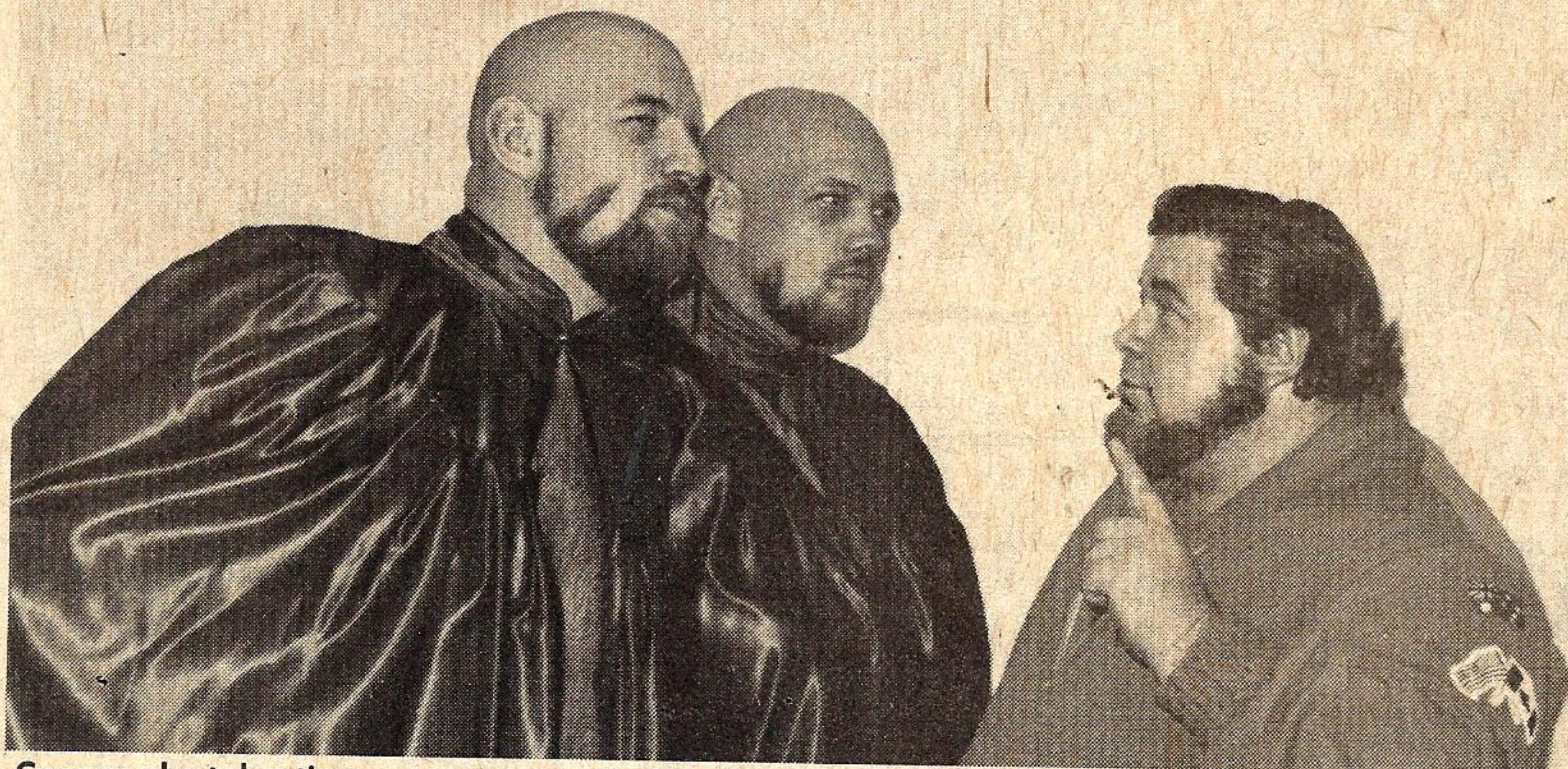


**20 POUNDS
OVERWEIGHT
AND YOU SAY
YOU HAVE
PROBLEMS?**

George Cannon doesn't believe in bloated muscles and uses light weights for body conditioning and skin tone.

HERE'S WHAT IT'S WEIGH 500 LBS

BY ETIENNE PILON



Cannon also takes time out to manage Karl Von Sholtz and Kurt Von Hess, currently the N.W.A.'s world tag team champions.

Have you ever wondered how does it feel like physically to weigh 500 pounds?

Just how uncomfortable can a person be and how much stress is placed on the vital organs when someone is lugging a quarter of ton?

The heaviest man in modern history was officially weighed in over 1,000 pounds but this unfortunate human being was a victim of a glandular disorder and was virtually immobile, sitting on a especially constructed chair in a side show.

There are some big men in football and basketball but the real giants of the scales can be found in professional wrestling.

These athletes are not only cited for their weight but also for their agility in the ring. Behemoths of the mat could never reach star status if they had only pounds going for them.

Back in the late thirties and early forties Man Mountain Dean was the forerunner of all the big, big men, tipping the Toledos at 480 pounds.

But Man Mountain could move and he could wrestle and was well grounded in the fundamentals of the sport.

Today the biggest man on the North American scene is Haystacks Calhoun who has been as heavy as 601 pounds.

Andrew "The French Giant" Ferre is the tallest man at seven-foot, four-inches and weighs 425 pounds.

Hombre Montana, popular two decades ago, came in at nearly 400 pounds.

George Cannon is unique among today's heavy heavyweights. Standing only five foot, 11 inches, the native of Montreal is clocked at 420 pounds on the scales and once was flirting with 500-mark.

Cannon is one of the more knowledgeable men about diet and calories and even a charter member of Weight Watchers couldn't improve on George's discipline in keeping hale and hearty.

LIKE TO

Now operating out of Detroit, Cannon has no problems travelling or eating in restaurants. Labeled "Cry Baby" for his antics in the ring, Cannon in reality has nothing to cry about compared to — say, Dr. Jerry Graham for example.

Dr. Graham is 70 pounds lighter than Cannon but he has to strain getting in and out of booths in restaurants and phone booths.

"I guess it is because I have small hips — much smaller than Jerry's. I once travelled with a wrestler named Humphrey Pennyworth who weighed 814 pounds. When we were going from city to city, I made him sit in the back of the car — for balance. But Pennyworth was determined to lose weight and under special medical supervision got down to 200 pounds."

Haystacks Calhoun once had to purchase two flight tickets because he took up so much room on a plane. Cannon can easily slip into one seat without difficulty and that is an accomplishment when you consider today's commercial plan-

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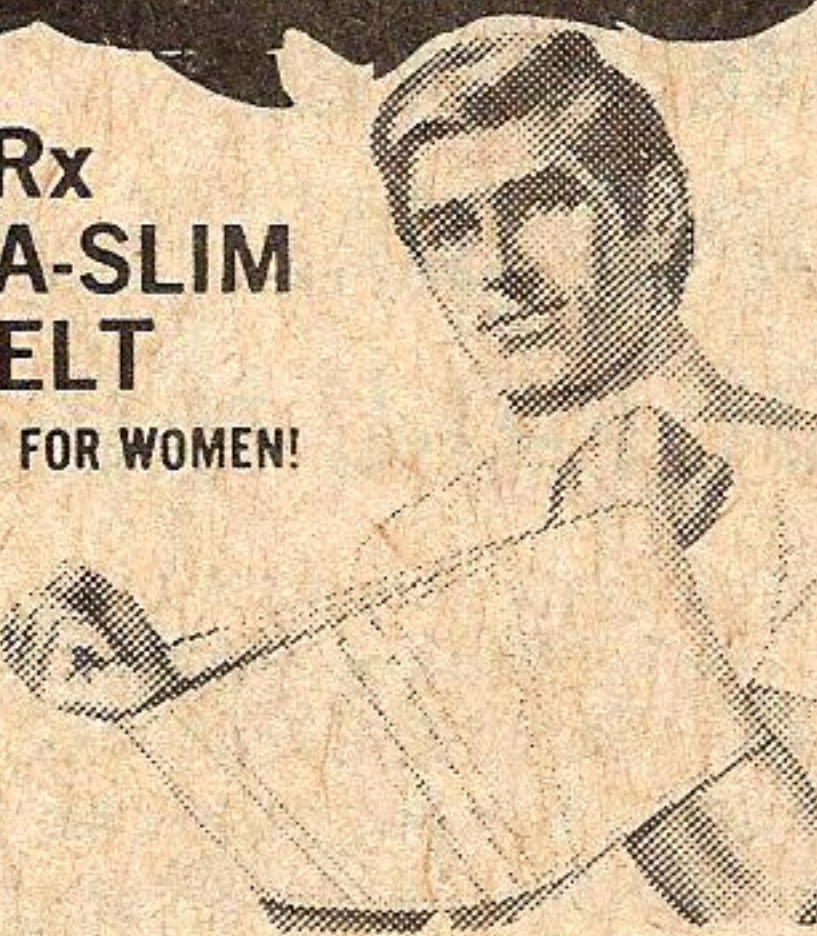
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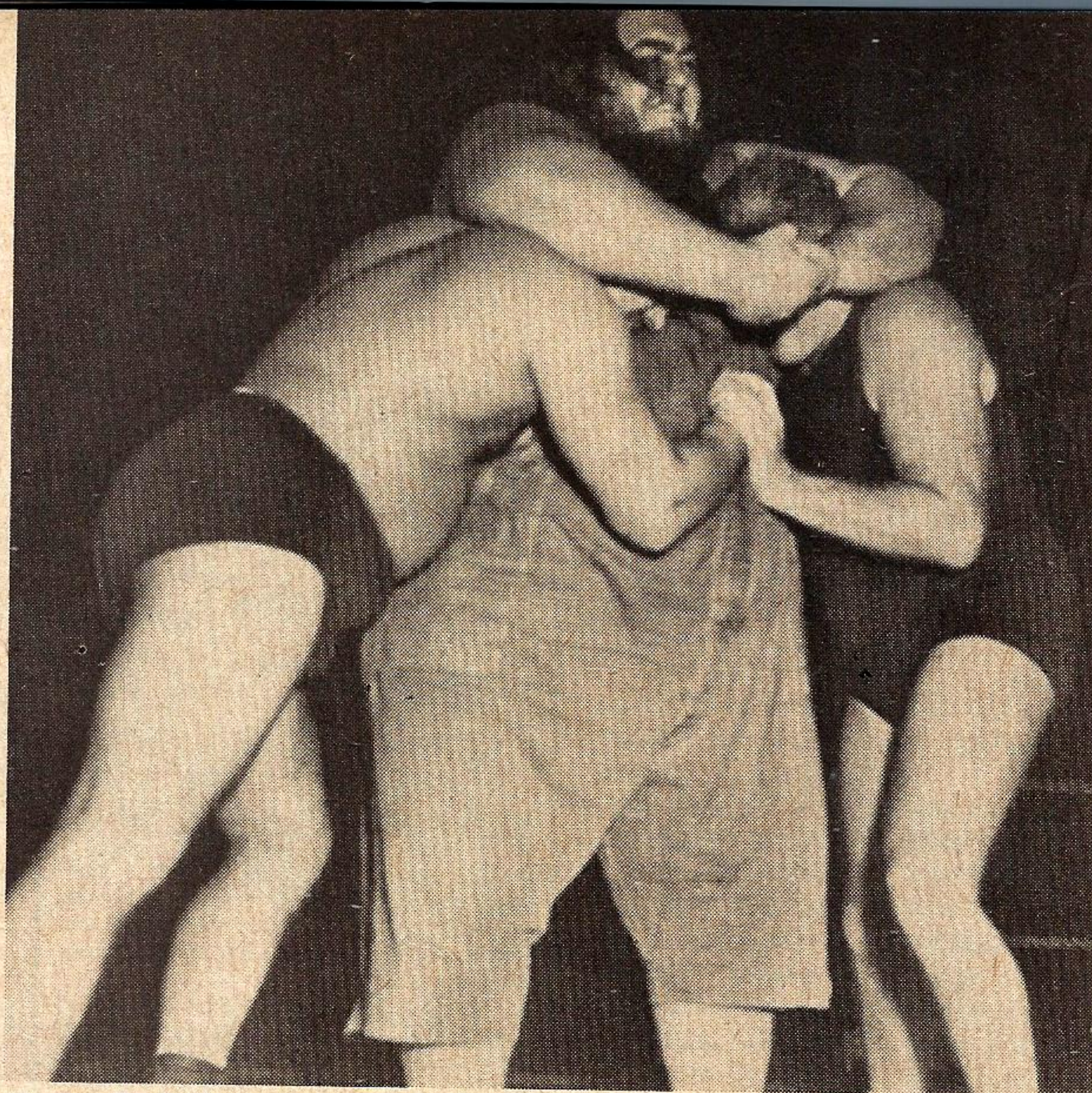
HAYSTACKS ONE OF TOP SUPER GIANTS AT 601 P-O-U-N-D-S

es give even the normal-sized person the minimum of room.

Antonio The Great was around 500 pounds in his prime and he billed himself as "The World's Strongest Man", living up to this monicker by pulling two three-ton buses loaded with people in such cities as London, Tokyo, New York and Los Angeles.

However, the more knowledgeable people in the sport will tell you Antonio's long suit was principally his tremendous strength with only the basics in wrestling skill.

Cannon, who uses only light weights and an exercycle to keep his body tone, admits all ultra big men have one problem in common — clothes.



Haystacks Calhoun is one of the best men in wrestling today at 601 pounds so taking on two opponents at the same time doesn't pose any serious problem.



George Cannon, who usually weighs in at 420, is an astute wrestler when it comes to keeping close tabs on his poundage. The "Cry Baby" is seen here being checked by a physician before a recent match in Detroit.

HOW GEORGE CANNON KEEPS TABS ON HIS 420 LBS

"Take me for example," Cannon went on, "I weigh 420 pounds. I have a blood pressure reading of a man of twenty five, who weighs 150 pounds. My systolic reading is 130 to 140 and diastolic 80 to 85."

"Once a month I go to the lab and have three vials of blood taken from my arm. I'm tested for cholesterol, my reading is usually 165 (160 to 250 is a normal reading), triglycerides 132, my reading is excellent, and uric acid, I have a reading of 6.5 (2-8 is normal). Then a test for glucose and there my reading is 92."

"Once every two months I check all the constituents. That is the secret. Stay on top of everything at all times. I can tell you every reading in my body. Calcium, Phosphorus, Iron, PH blood level, the whole works. Now there are some people who will say; well he is an exception and statistics don't lie. Baloney."

"None of us guys can go into a store and ever select something off the rack. Everything is made to measure and when you are talking about 400 to 500-pounders, it can get rather expensive."

This observer crossed paths with Cannon recently before a match at the Euclid Arena in Cleveland. He was sitting on a table in the dressing room, taking a physical examination.

The doctor was talking to George.

"Where did you go to medical school? You seem to have an extensive medical vocabulary and know what you are talking about."

I interrupted Cannon and his doctor.

"Do you mind if I listen to this conversation?"

There was no objection so I opened my notebrook and jotted down the exchange of medical wisdom.

George Cannon, also considered the world's greatest wrestling manager, was telling the doctor and, anybody who cared to listen, that weight is not a killer as most general practitioners would have you believe.

"Pope John, Khrushchev even Churchill was a fat man and he lived to 92, smoking a big cigar or more and from what I understand would also drink a fifth of brandy every day. I'm not faulting doctors but they are human. When you go into a doctor's office has he's got a certificate giving the grade that he passed medical school? Not very likely! Lets just say fifty or better is a passing grade. Now the doctor gets a passing mark but he only knows one out of every two questions he was asked."

MAN MOUNTAIN DEAN AT 480, STAR IN 30'S

Now can you afford to gamble with those odds of fifty percent. I should say you can't. If the doctor who couldn't tell what was wrong would only refer you to somebody who could, all would be fine, but no they bluff and start experimenting with you by filling your body with

drugs."

"Fifteen years ago Dr. Ansel Keyes, a biochemist at the University of Minnesota, proved after 10,000 cases that cholesterol and triglycerides were a contributing factor if not the entire cause of arteriosclerosis or hardening of the arteries which of course would lead to a heart attack. There is an accumulation of fatty materials (lipids) including cholesterol in the lining of the vessels. The blood vessels bringing nourishment to the heart (coronary), brain (cerebral) kidneys (renal), and legs (peripheral) are most likely to become arteriosclerotic."

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- (1) how numerous people make use of a certain formula for paying bills with marvelous results (p. 37)
- (2) how a poverty-stricken couple received \$10,000 "out of the blue" in response to their request (p. 25)
- (3) how a man was able to triple his income in three months with a certain 28-word prayer that takes only ten seconds to repeat (p. 98)
- (4) how L.T. used a one sentence prayer to rise from a job as an office boy to the owner of a 50 million dollar company (p. 178)

...or explain any one of the scores of wonderful things that happened to people who used Dr. Murphy's prayer techniques!

But we assure you that you won't be able to explain a single one of these mysterious "answered prayers"—you won't that is, until you read Dr. Murphy's thrilling new book **"YOUR INFINITE POWER TO BE RICH"**...

● On page 6 of Dr. Murphy's book, you will find these exciting words:

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● On page 24, you'll read of a woman out of work, trying to support three children, with the bills piling up rapidly. No sooner did she utilize a single prayer given to her by Dr. Murphy than a surprise gift of \$5,000 in cash came out of the blue, from an almost forgotten relative she had not seen for 15 years!

● On page 98, you'll discover how a working man TRIPLED his income in just three months, through the power of a certain

prayer. This prayer contains 28 words. It takes only ten seconds to repeat. You will find this prayer given word for word in the book.

● On page 109, you'll read the true story of Maria, a little 8-year-old Spanish girl in New York, who wanted nothing in all the world more than a new bicycle. Her parents could not afford such a gift, but Dr. Murphy, who was then her next-door neighbor taught her how to Ask... and her prayer was answered... she got her brand-new bicycle **ONE DAY LATER.**

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These are only a brief sample of the scores of true, heart-warming and moving case-histories of the power of Living Prayer in action. Dr. Murphy's book, called **"YOUR INFINITE POWER TO BE RICH"**, gives you the full techniques with which you can contact the Power capable of answering your every need.

You will find these powerful prayer-techniques truly beautiful, reverent and inspiring. And you will find out for yourself that—**incredible as it may seem—THESE PRAYERS DO WORK.** They ARE answered! Time and time again, skeptics have tried—simply tried—and found to their utter amazement that Dr. Murphy truly has in his hands the lost key to a Bible secret forgotten for ages.

We do NOT expect you to take our unsupported word for this. We urge you to **PROVE TO YOURSELF**, our words are true. We want to put a copy of Dr. Murphy's book into your hands. All we ask is that you **TRY—just try—using one of these prayers.** Fill out and return the coupon below.

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GEORGE SAYS CHECKUP BY DOCTOR MUST

"Every night while I was being examined I would bring up the question of cholesterol and triglycerides. I don't believe one doctor agreed with Dr. Keyes. Most of them scoffed at the idea, some laughed out loud. I sometimes wonder how these same doctors feel today."

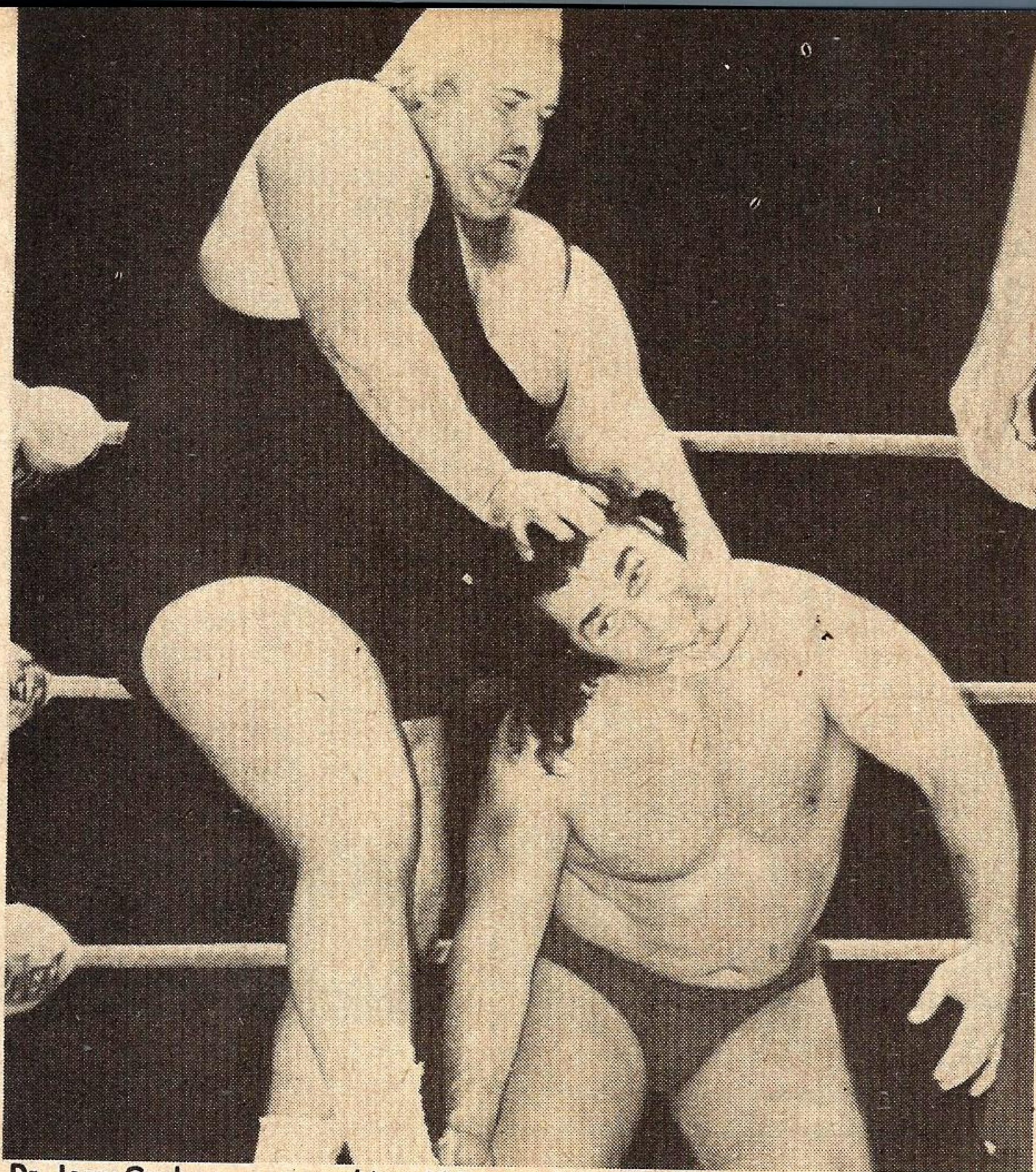
"Now we come to the problem of an operation. The lazy doctor won't want to operate on a heavy person. Because it's impossible? No! Because they won't spend the extra time coming out. Their excuse is usually it's a large incision so there is too much fat and the sutures won't hold to fat. Not so!"

"First, it is true the incision in some cases is larger, but there is muscle located in the fat and the stitches could be sewn there, but that means probing and probing is extra work. Then there is chicken mesh!"

"But, instead the doctor will sew fast and get out to his many other patients. (I saw one doctor with three of his patients on the golf course. They were all teeing off) So really the medical theory is baloney! There are three basic foods you can eat."

"Protein, carbohydrates, and fat."

"Protein and carbohydrates work out to the same calorie per



Dr. Jerry Graham, approaching 400 pounds, is another big, big man who has to watch his weight.

CLOTHES REAL PROBLEM FOR BIG FELLOWS

gram count while fat is more. If your intake is carbohydrates it will turn to calories faster than protein. This means harder work to burn it off faster, protein of course even-

tually turns to calories so either way, regardless you have to have an allround balanced diet.

"I function at a heavier weight so I retain the weight that I am at the present time. And listen any of you heavies out there, just remember this, don't lay around the house. Get up and exercise. I work out constantly, exercycle, light weights for body tone, swimming and some light isometric's."

"Get your blood counts, a cardiogram every once in a while. Like I said I could name you heavies who outlived lighties all night. Take President Taft (72) well over three hundred pounds, lived eleven years longer than Coolidge (61) who disappeared every time he turned sideways. Think about it."

Cannon has written across his back "I AM RIGHT" in big block letters. Listen to him talk. Maybe he is RIGHT. Think about that sometime.



Unquestionably the largest tag team in the world has to be Billy (left) and Benny McGuire, who have weighed in at 640 and 660 pounds, respectively.



Little Boy Blue walks down the aisle to a match.

LITTLE BOY BLUE BLOWS OWN HORN AS BIGGEST MIDGET STAR

BY ALLAN BOLTE

The word had gotten around. Posters were out all over the city, newspapers had good write-ups on it, people were talking about it and TV announcer Hank Rennar was mentioning it on TV wrestling. The mighty midgets were returning and would be in a tag team match in San Francisco's huge Cow Palace — and it was sure to be a complete sell out.

It was Little Boy Blue, presently rated the #1 midget wrestler, teaming with Cowboy Bradley to wrestle Tom Thumb and Farmer Boy Jerome in a tag team match for two out of three falls, with a one-hour time limit.

Finally, the match started and the fans weren't quite sure which team to root for. They obviously liked Tom Thumb and Farmer Boy Jerome's pleasant attitudes and smiles and the way they cheerfully signed autographs and they didn't take too kindly to the fact Boy Blue tried to start a fight and to the fact he yelled at a few fans on the way.

Thus, there were mixed feelings about the team and by the time Farmer Boy had pinned Cowboy at 14:56 to win the first

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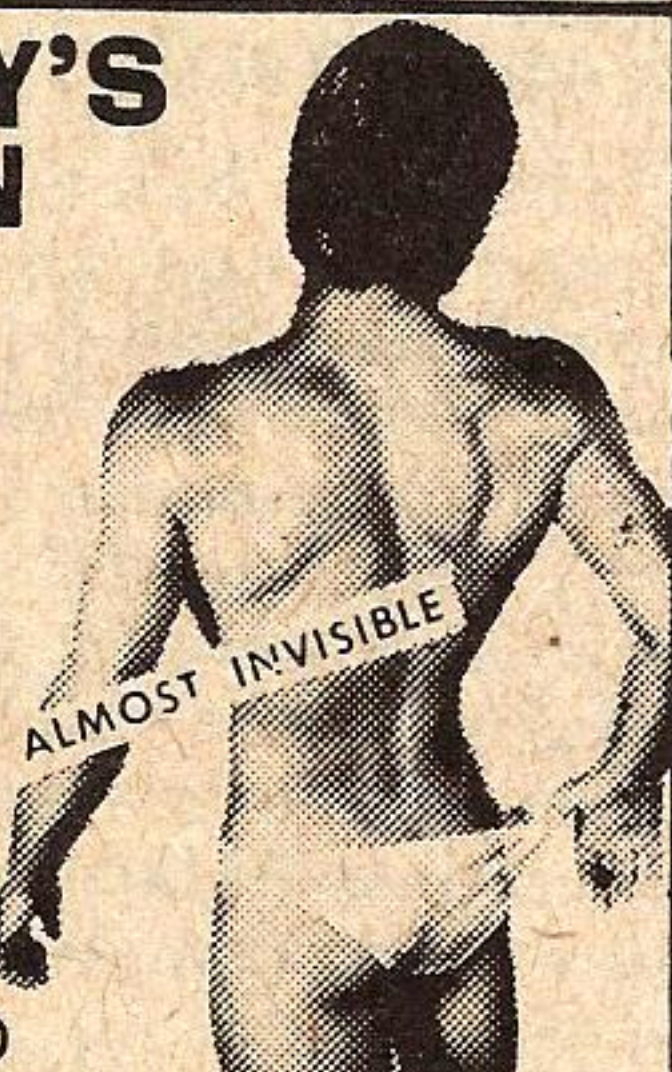
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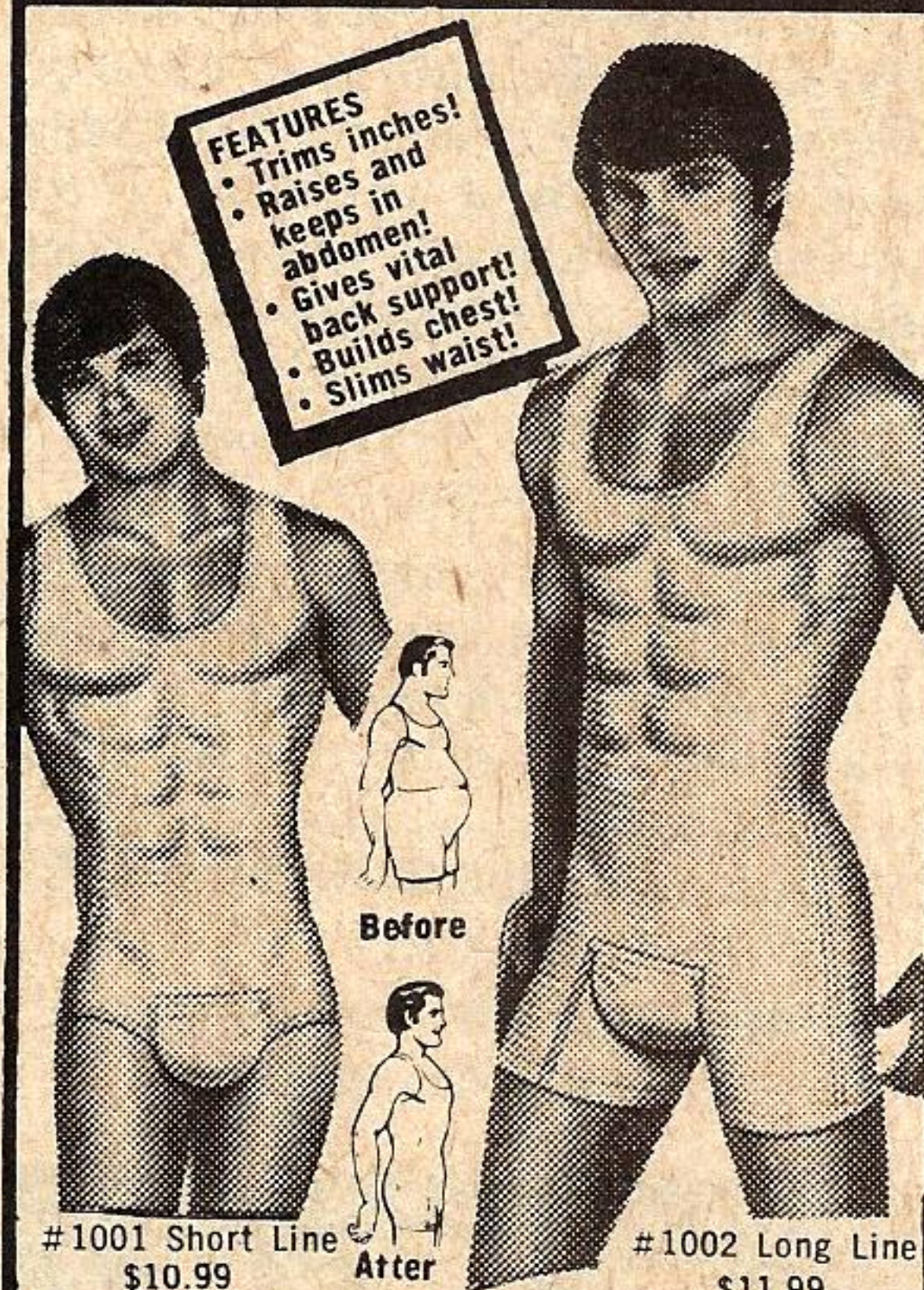
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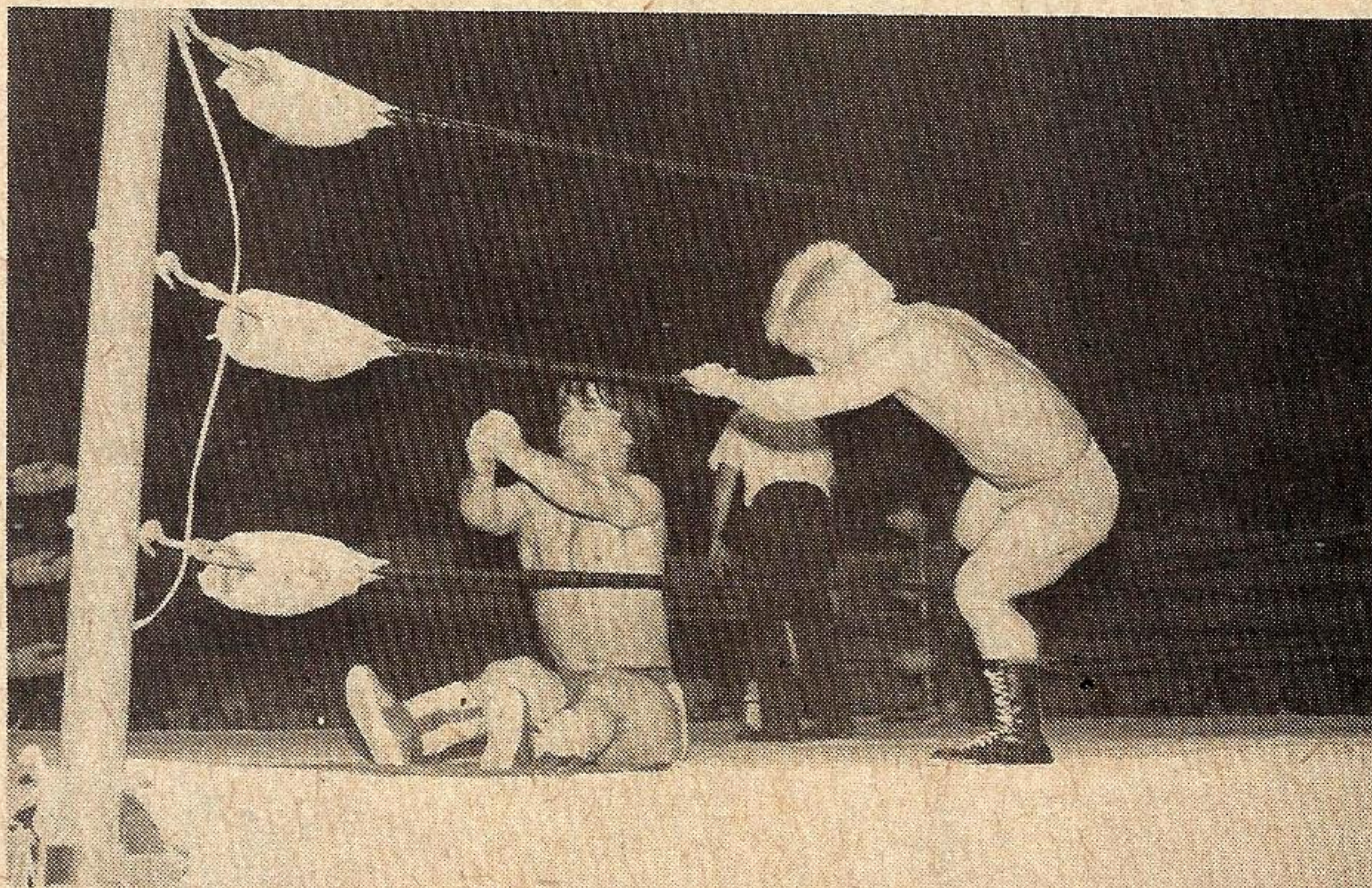
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Bradley has been knocked down by his opponent, Tom Thumb, and Little Boy Blue comes to his assistance.

HAS COWBOY BRADLEY AS TAG PARTNER

fall, it was obvious the fans were for Tom Thumb and Farmer Boy. After all, Boy Blue and his partner chose to break every rule in the book during the first fall and the fans didn't approve of this very well.

The second fall rang and Blue was tagged by Cowboy and Blue hit, kicked and even bit at Farmer Boy and Blue then climbed to the top rope strand and jumped off, landing with both feet on Farmer Boy's belly. In the short time of 3:11, Blue won the second fall to even things up.

Action started fast from the beginning of the third and most important, deciding fall when Blue and Tom Thumb went at it. After several minutes of wrestling, Tom Thumb had Blue beaten and the latter was screaming and shouting, telling the referee that Thumb was cheating. While the ref checked, Cowboy Bradley illegally ran into the ring and clobbered Thumb hard on the head with his shoe, which certainly caught Thumb off guard and knocked Thumb temporarily senseless.

All it took was a few seconds and Blue was on top of Thumb, pinning him at 12:12, to win the third fall and the match. It was a quick, easy victory for Little Boy Blue and Cowboy Bradley but one the fans didn't like because Blue and Bradley cheated to win.

"That is not true," Blue said. "I did not cheat to win. You said I cheated to win. That's not at all true, you're lying. I pinned Tom Thumb right in the center of the ring fair and square and if that wasn't the way it went the referee would have changed things."

Little Boy Blue, many fans who closely follow wrestling feel, closely resembles facial features of Canada's Pat Patterson and Blue, also, was born in Montreal, Canada, and is a French-Canadian. Supporting bright blond hair, big brown eyes and only 103 pounds, Blue is only 24 years old and has been a professional wrestler for five years. According to him, it has been five successful years.

"I began wrestling professionally in my hometown, Montreal, in early 1969 and I've enjoyed it ever since. I hardly regret the fact I entered wrestling as a full-time pro wrestler. Hell, look where I am now! I am rated by all the alliances across the country as the number one challenging midget wrestler and there's no one quite like me. I was very upset when the bay area fans jeered

me and called me names. That's ridiculous. They evidently don't know good talent when they see it."

"Anyway, I wrestled for a year around Canada and then I began receiving a few offers from big promoters in Japan, Australia and the Far East. They knew I had gained a reputation and that I was winning my matches and that's all they cared about."

"So, in 1970 I took off for Japan, which was the best offer, and wrestled there for about five months and then headed for the United States. I wrestled for Vince McMahon on the East Coast and stayed around there for half a year, travelling around and selling out every arena I appeared at. I took on all the big names in single matches and tag team matches and that's where I picked up Cowboy Bradley."

"It's funny how I picked him up. I was booked to wrestle him and we went to a 20 minute draw and it was his first match. I had defeated everybody I wrestled, with the exception of a few losses because the referee disqualified me. When the promoter told me

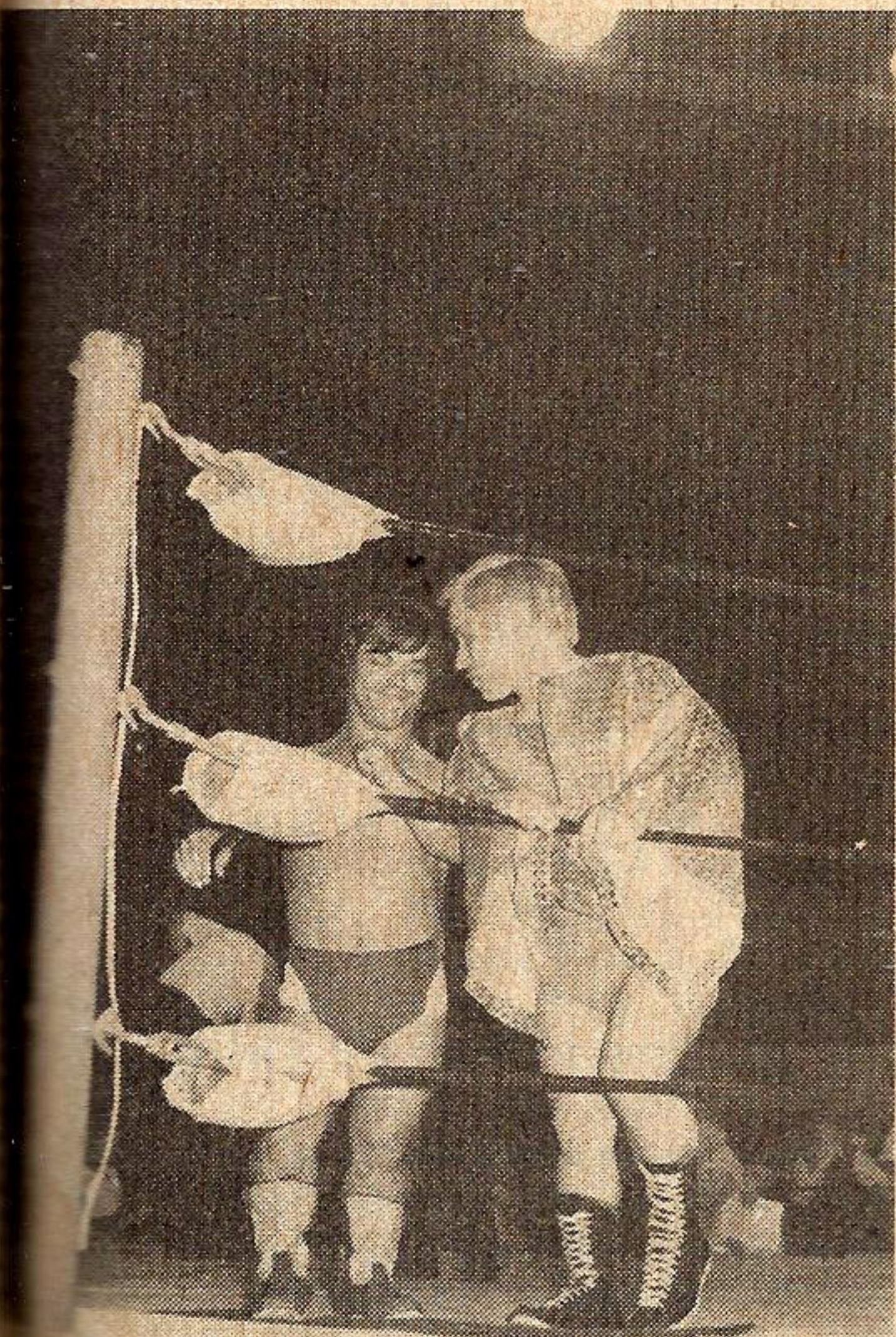
that was his first match, I could hardly believe it. So I asked to talk with him after the match and he finally agreed and I asked him if he wanted to join me for a few tag team matches."

"He was all for it so the promoter kept us there for another month and we won all four tag bouts we were in. We then travelled to Australia and stayed there for a few months and enjoyed it."

"Cowboy is a great guy and a tremendous partner. He's fast and smart and very tricky, all just like me. We work well together and we have to be the greatest tag team in the history of midget wrestling."

"We split up for a year and each went our own way and I spent most of my time in the states, wrestling all across the country. To this day I've been in just about every type of match you can imagine. I've wrestled regular midget matches, midget tag matches, and even a few midget six-man tag team bouts. I've wrestled special mixed tag matches, where a midget joins a regular sized wrestler to face an-

REAL TERROR AT 103 POUNDS, BEGAN in '69



other midget and regular sized wrestler. I also wrestled two matches in the states where I teamed with a lady wrestler and we went against another midget and a lady wrestler. It was quite a match. I won one of them and lost the other. The state athletic commission didn't approve of that style of match so now it's illegal."

"I can take care of myself against any midget and against practically any full-grown man!"

It could be. At any rate, Little Boy Blue has been all over the world as a leading professional wrestler and never has enjoyed as much success as he is now. He's fast, capable and very tricky and enjoys playing the life of a wrestler — and a hero!

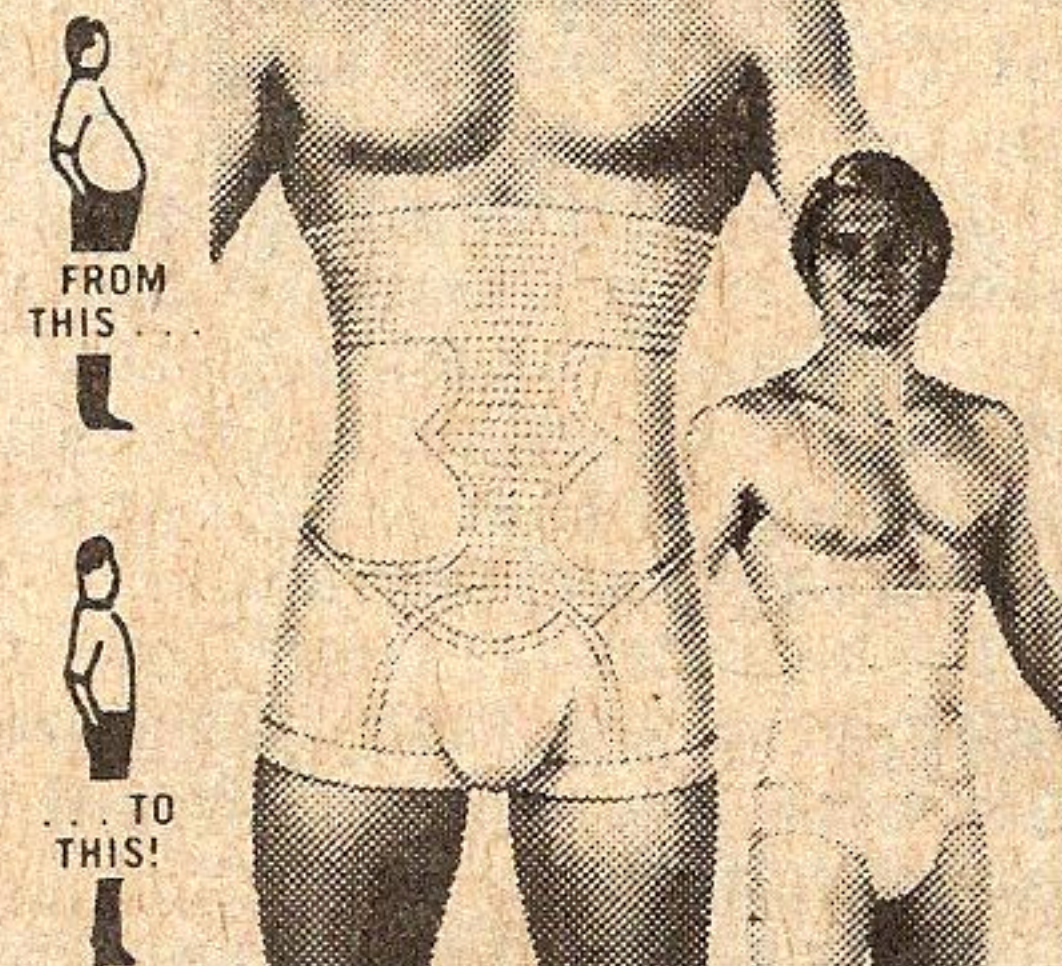


Blue and Bradley proclaim, "We are the greatest midget tag team in the world."

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international mat-o-rama

Wrestling is on the rise everywhere throughout the world BUT Paul Lincoln seems to be having his problems in Cardiff.

The pro mat sport is booming everywhere in Great Britain under Joint Promotions but in Wales it is nothing more than a big headache that finds a promoter struggling to break even.

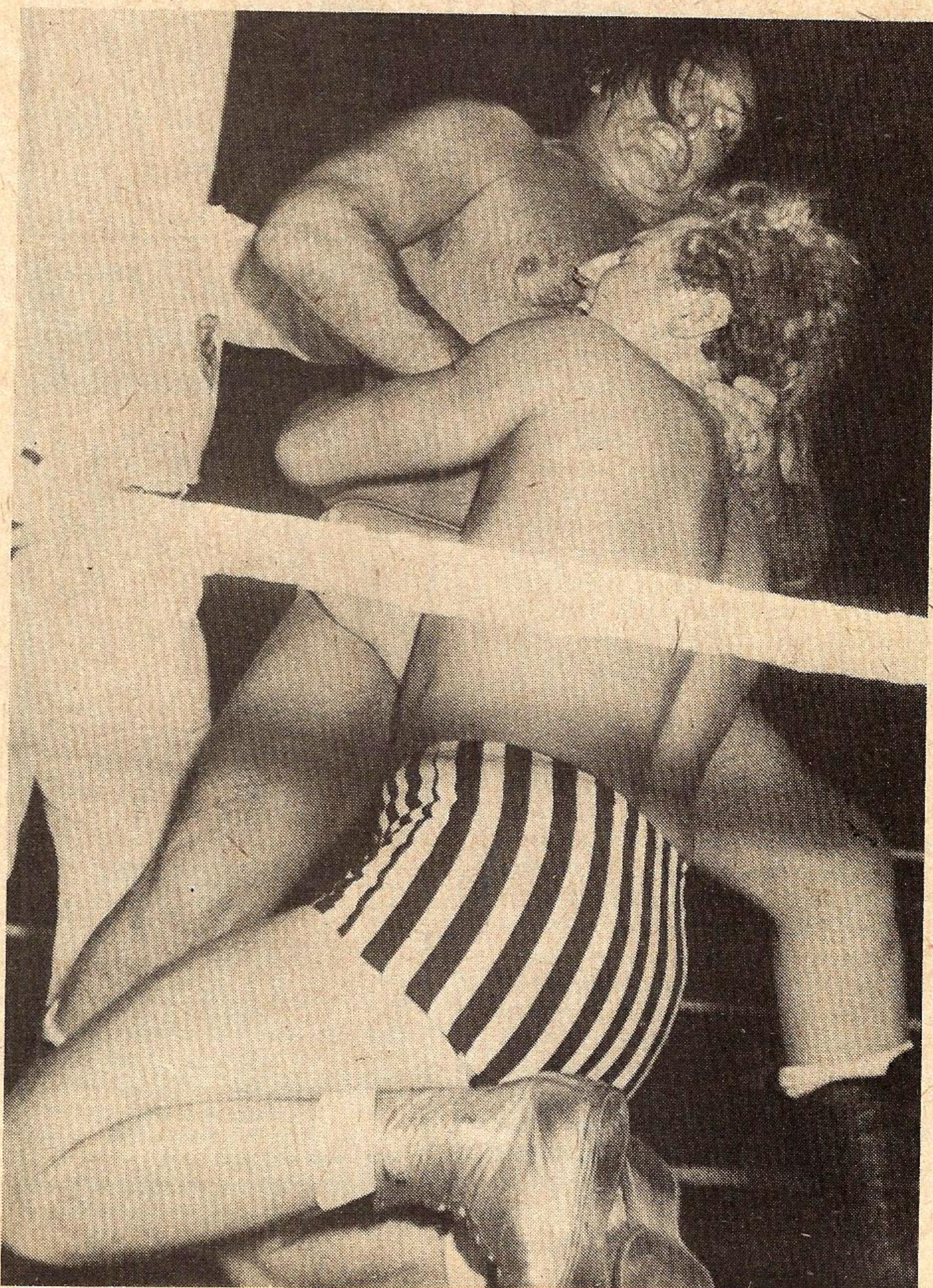
Perhaps its lethargy isn't totally with the fans' disinterest but with the product offered by the promoters.

Many devotees of the sport are complaining that they are seeing

WRESTLING BOOMS IN BRITAIN BUT CARDIFF HAVING GATE WOES

the same faces over and over again and the price scales are currently out of sight with the current energy crises engulfing the United Kingdom on this side of the Atlantic.

The big thing that is rocking the box-office is the VAT tax.



Several years ago this tax setup almost ruined boxing and it now appears that both the gloves sport and wrestling will be affected by the edict.

Lincoln offered a double main event in this most recent show.

Jackie Pallo, hailed as Mr. TV of wrestling, squared off with his archenemy, Steven Logan. The bout ended in a draw with both wrestlers scoring a fall apiece before time ran out.

Overall it was poor wrestling simply because the combatants employed too much ground wrestling and fisticuffs.

In the other headline attraction, Abe Ginsburg, created a mild sensation with his new built up shoes. Naturally, the opponent, Les Kellet, objected but the match was permitted to go as scheduled.

Ginsburg pointed out that there is nothing in the rules to block Abe from wearing the shoes. Kellet says he will report to the wrestling board of control and Abe simply said "Go ahead and see how far you get."

Kellet did have the satisfaction of beating Ginsburg—shoes and all—two falls to one. And the fans loved every minute of it.

Another good attraction was the matching of the Borg Twins

Steve Logan elbow-slams Jackie Pallo to the canvas. Both men are outstanding attractions throughout Great Britain.

in a tag bout with the Cockney Kids. The latter duo is composed of Peter Kelly and Tony Skarlo.

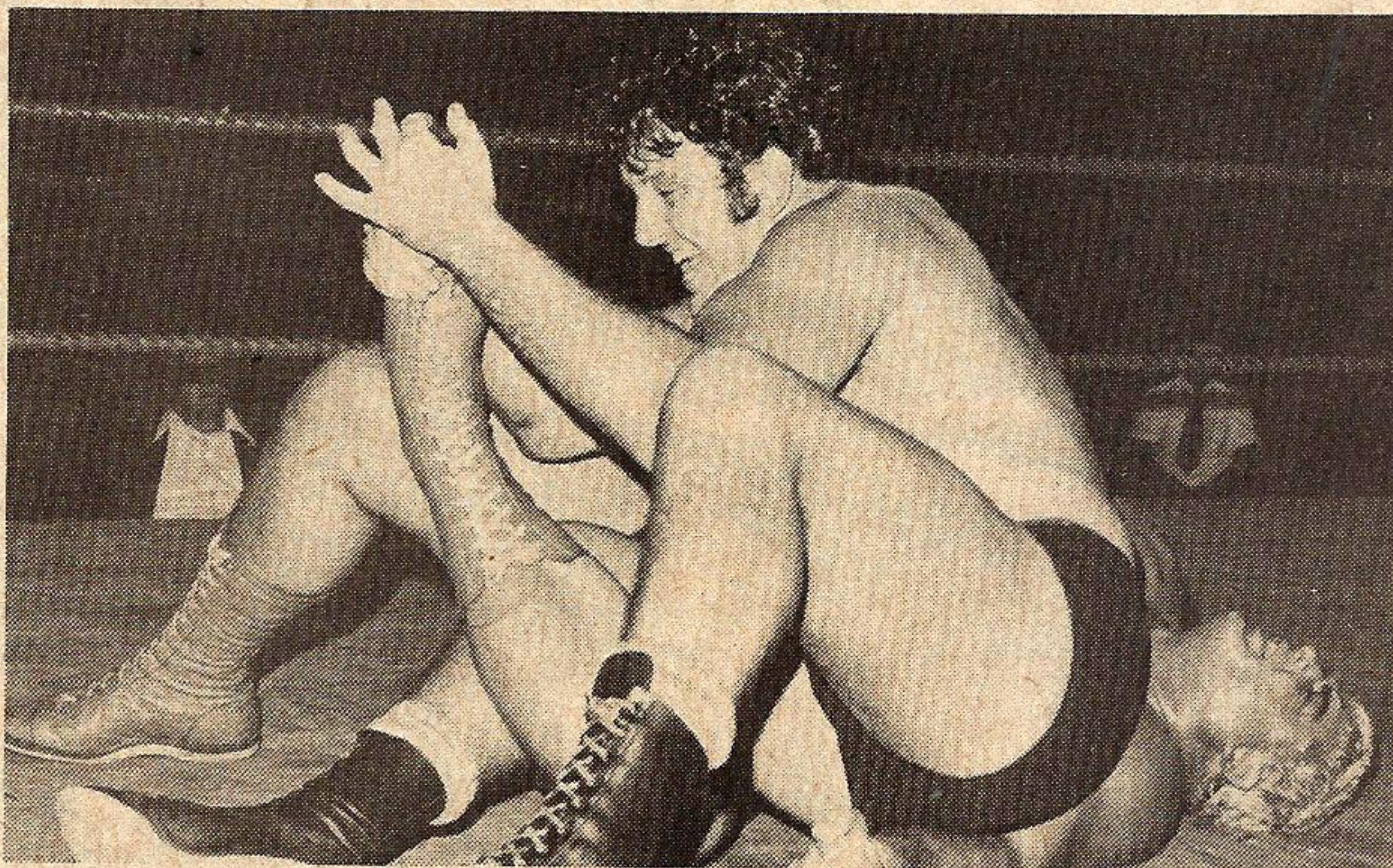
It was an exciting match of speed and wrestling skill by both teams but in the end, The Borg Twins prevailed for the victory.

We are happy over the news that Johnny Kwango is on the

world—it has to be another lulu.

Another top wrestler who has been sidelined by Davies is Prince Barnu and it is beginning to look like Ken really deserves the title "Killer."

We have been getting so much fan mail on Billy Robinson that it has been decided to answer all



Billy Robinson, always popular wherever he performs, is giving his opponent fits as he applies the pressure with a toe hold.

road to recovery after a serious leg operation. All the fans in Great Britain and Wales are sending their condolences with the sprightly message, "Get well Johnny and come back to us quickly because we miss your exciting style in the ring."

Bulldog Bill Garnon also has been on the sick list and wishes to thank the many fans who have shown him kindness and consideration during his enforced illness.

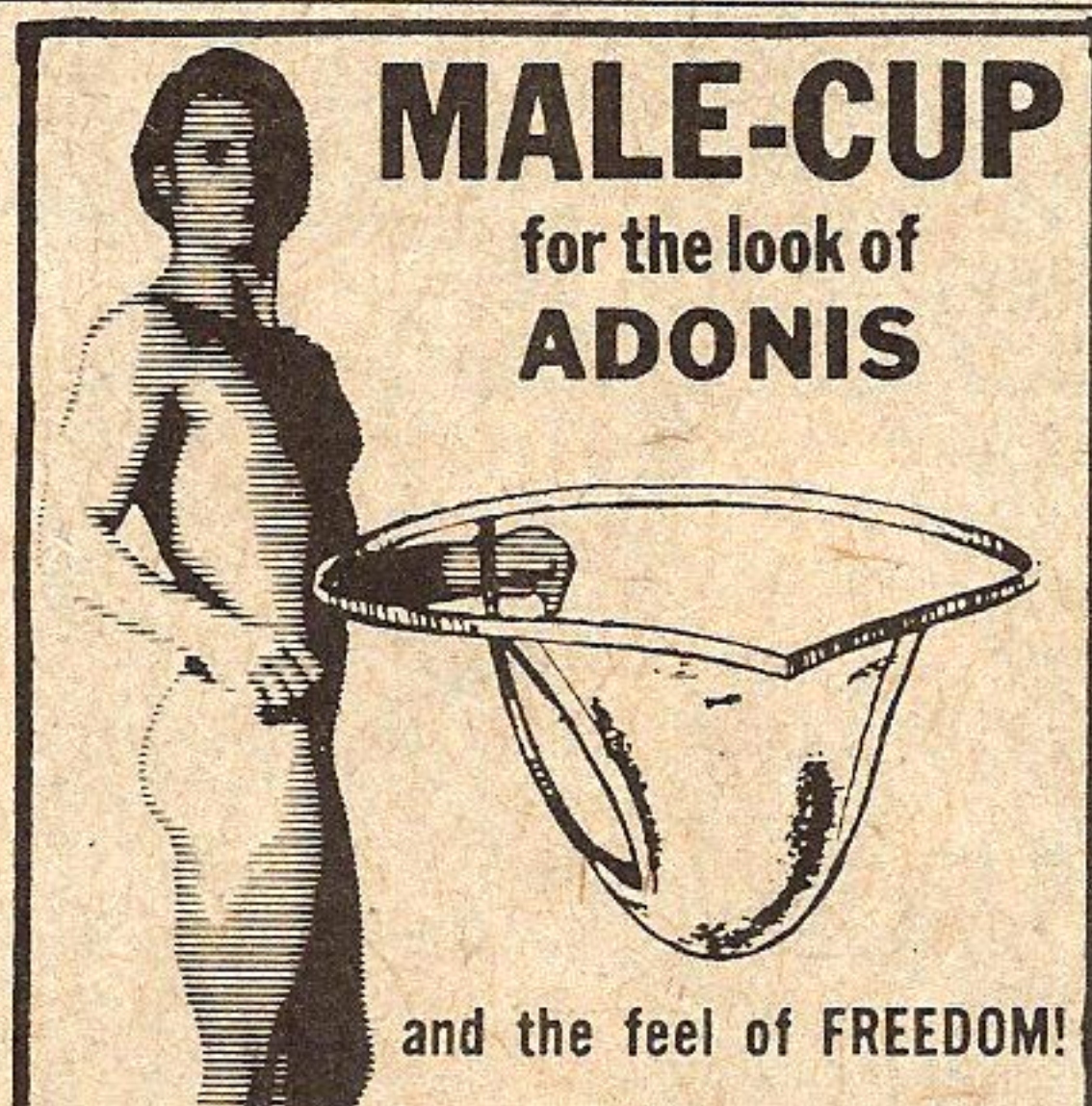
We have often visited Bill and he is a great person to chat with regarding all aspects of wrestling and, of course, the days when he was the British Champion, plus his highly successful tour of the United States.

Garnon not only is a talented wrestler but a great humorist as well.

Tony Cortez, the European light-heavyweight champion on the Independent circuit is now back in action after recovering from a serious leg operation.

He injured the member in a knock-down, drag out match with Killer Ken Davies, the Welsh titleholder. There is a rematch coming up in Cardiff and I wouldn't miss it for the

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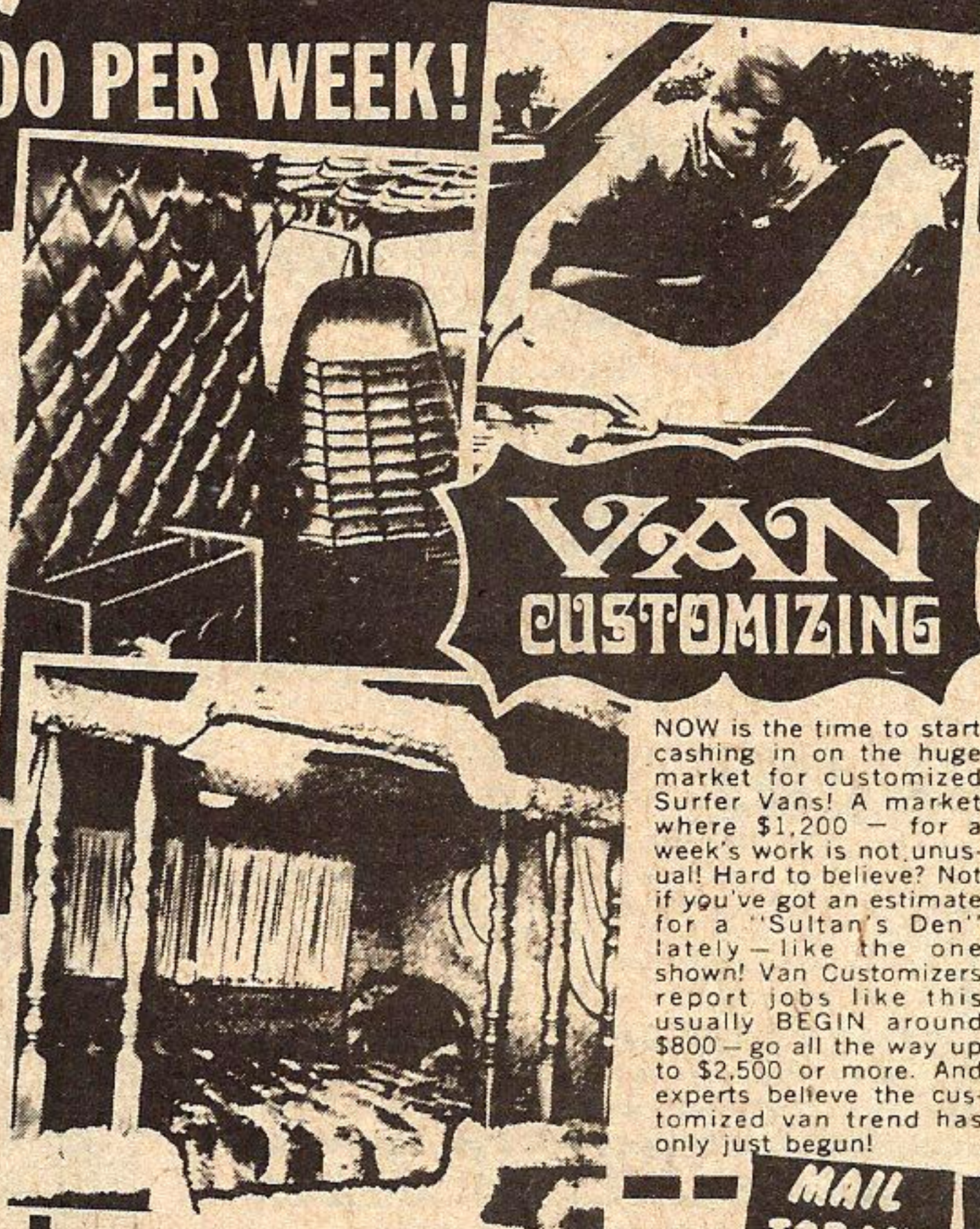
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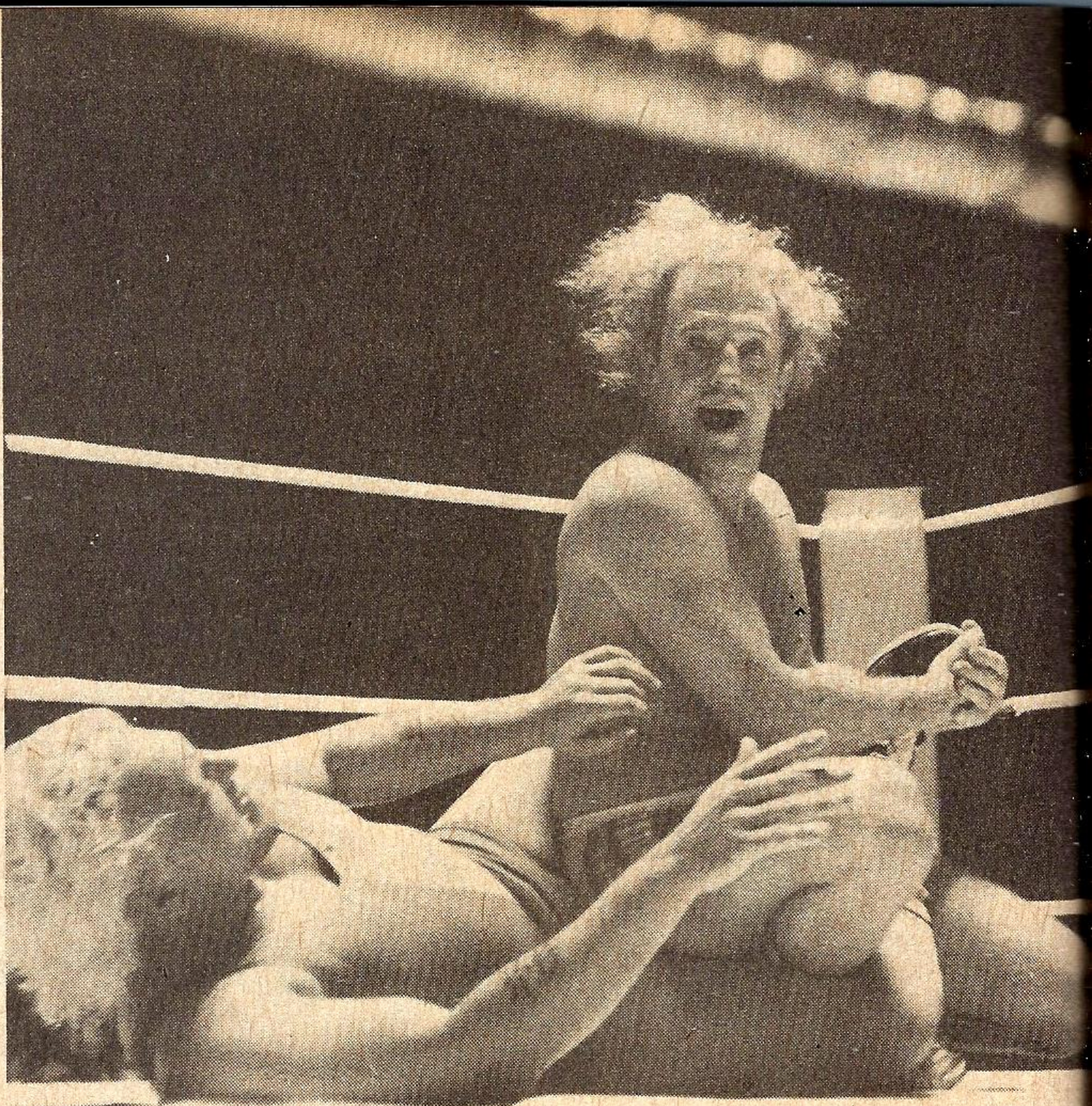
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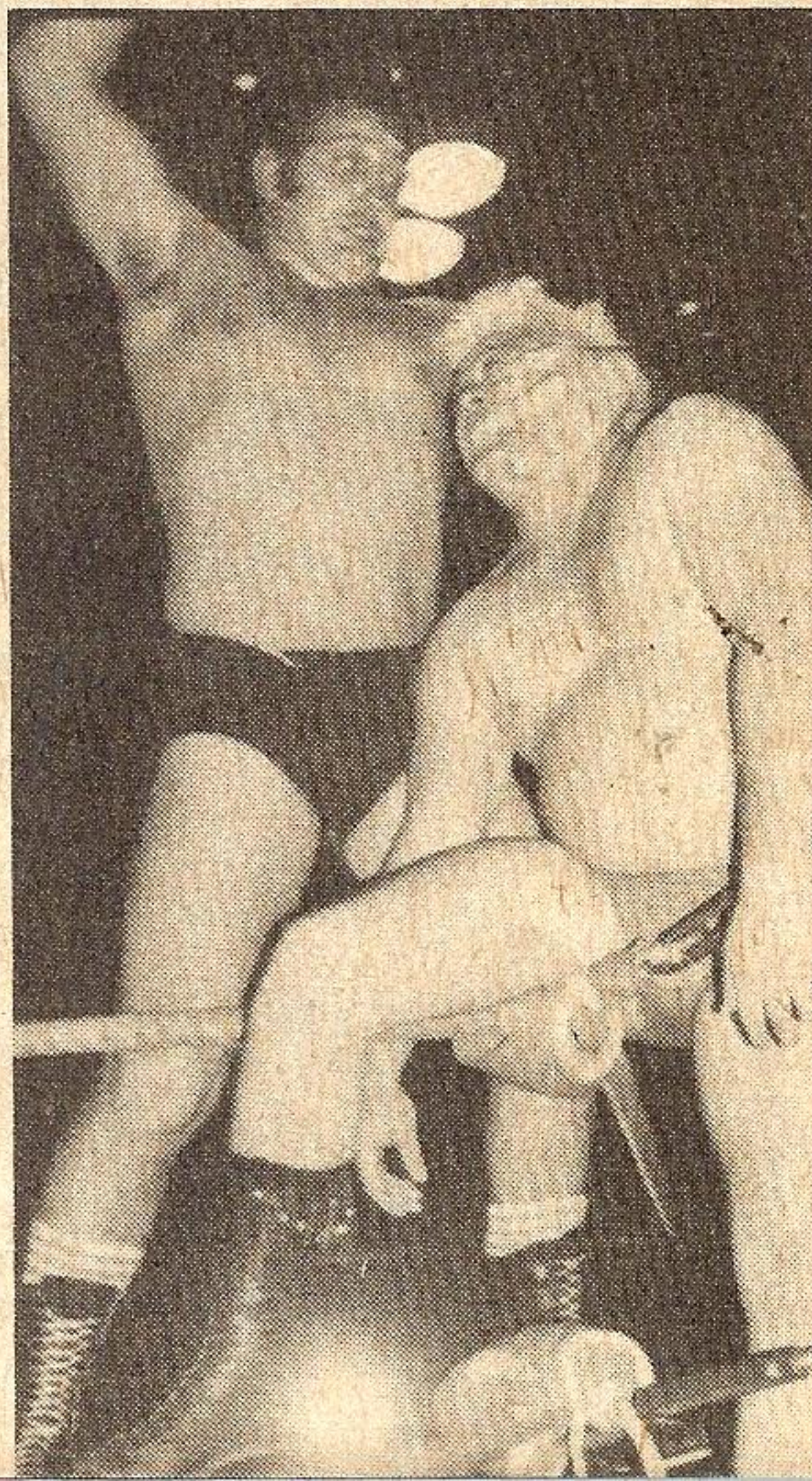
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Billy Robinson, the European heavyweight champion, is about to lower the boom on a stunned opponent.

Jackie Pallo, an outstanding attraction on British TV, has the upper hand here as he works over his opponent with a painful toe hold.



the queries en masse.

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Robinson has travelled all over the world, training and studying the different styles of wrestling. Billy was particularly impressed

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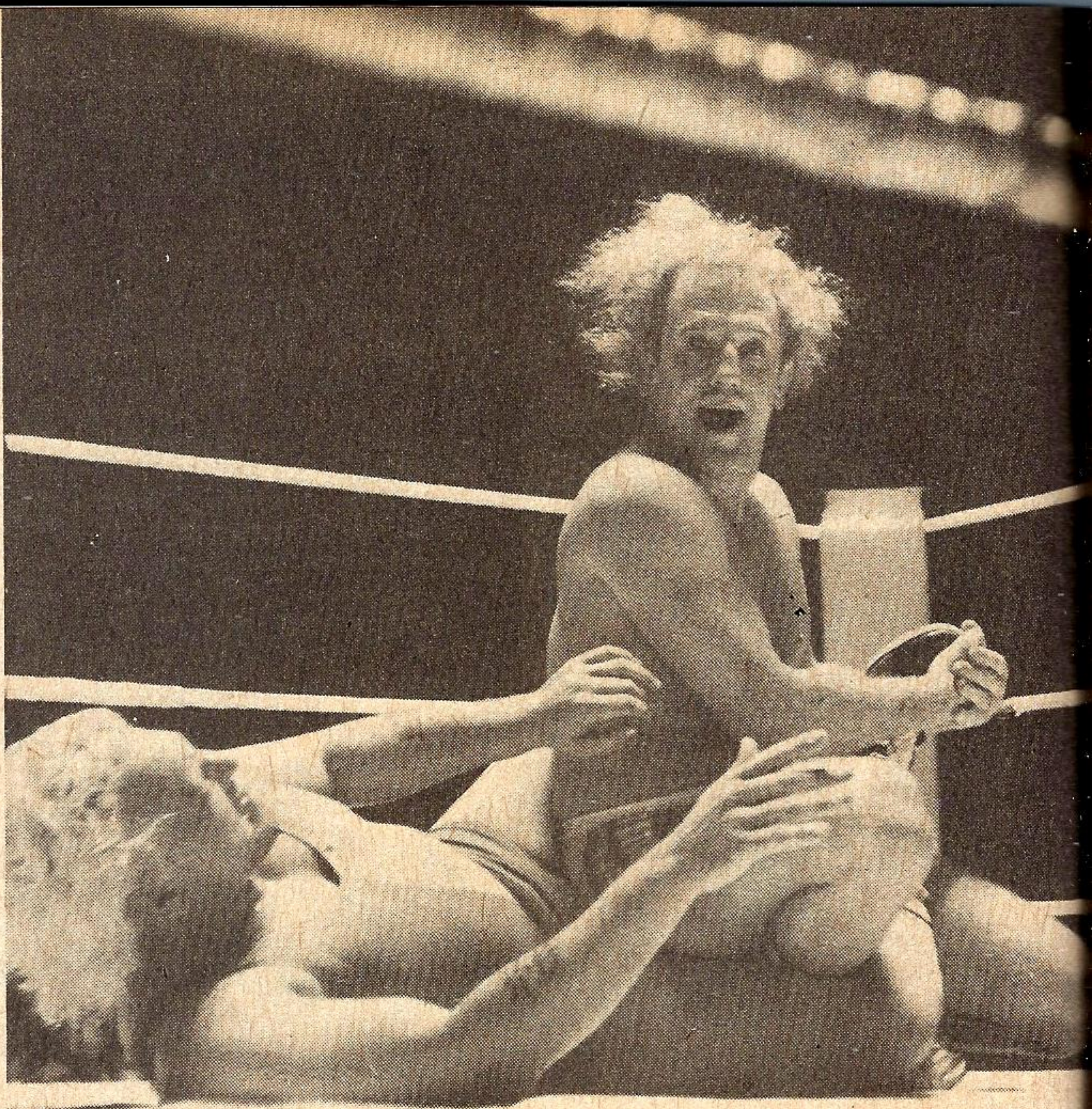
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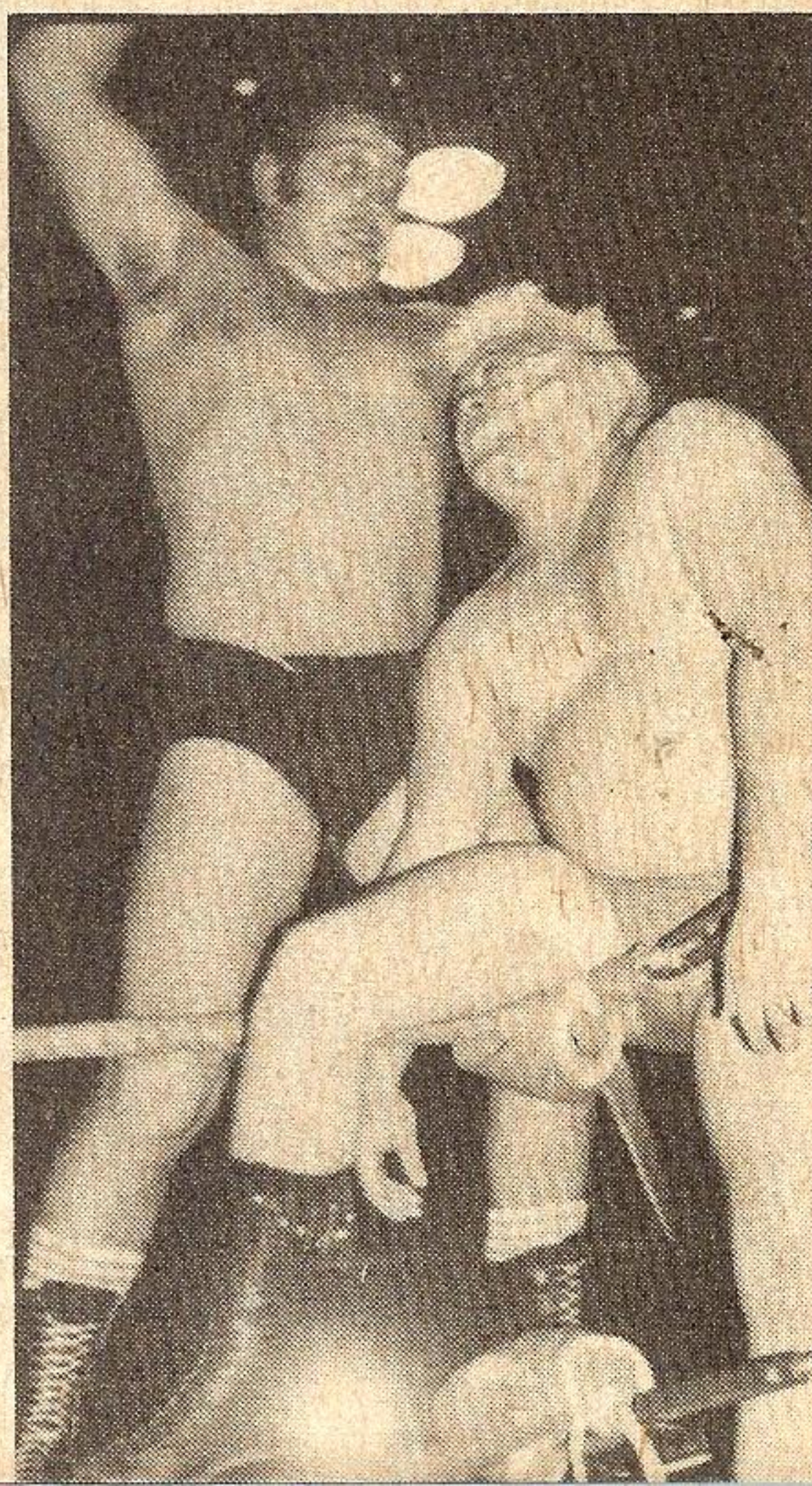
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Age



Billy Robinson, the European heavyweight champion, is about to lower the boom on a stunned opponent.

Jackie Pallo, an outstanding attraction on British TV, has the upper hand here as he works over his opponent with a painful toe hold.



the queries en masse.

Robinson, oft-times hailed as England's greatest athlete, was born in Collyhurst, Manchester on Sept. 19, 1939 and he later attended Stafford Boys School and Hetmor College.

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Robinson has travelled all over the world, training and studying the different styles of wrestling. Billy was particularly impressed

with the Greco-Roman style of combat he learned in Europe, a technique which gave him tremendous bridges and suplexes.

Robinson also picked up the Indian style of wrestling in Gustta, India which is based primarily on leverage, and then later in Japan where he mastered Judo.

Billy also worked at Billy Rulley's famous Wigan gym where the latter demands perfection from all wrestlers under his guidance.

Billy has won his share of championships since turning pro including the I.W.E. World Heavyweight crown, the Australian, European and United Kingdom heavyweight championship. He still holds the latter title.

Robinson also has been the King's Champion of India and also wrestled with success in many tournaments throughout Germany.

Robinson's toughest bouts have been with such stars as Billy Joyce —whom he defeated for the British heavyweight crown in 1967 — Karl Gotch, George Gordienko, Dory Funk and Verne Gagne.

Billy is married and as his favorite food, he prefers German cuisine, plus a couple of bottles of wine on the side.

Robinson likes all sports and also speaks German and French and as a relaxing hobby prefers good music, principally ballads.

While touring the States, Robinson has wrestled in areas governed by the American Wrestling Association.

Billy has one ambition in life—and it is a big one—to win the A.W.A. world's heavyweight championship from Gagne, considered by many knowledgeable people as the greatest performer in the game today.

Robinson's only encounter with Gagne found him emerging as the winner but he didn't get the title because he Verne was disqualified for tossing Billy over the top rope strand and the title doesn't change hands through a disqualification.

"Gagne is the greatest wrestler I have ever faced but I am confident I can beat him in a rematch if he is ever willing to meet me in a titular tussle. I respect Verne also as a great sportsman and I am confident the match can be made."

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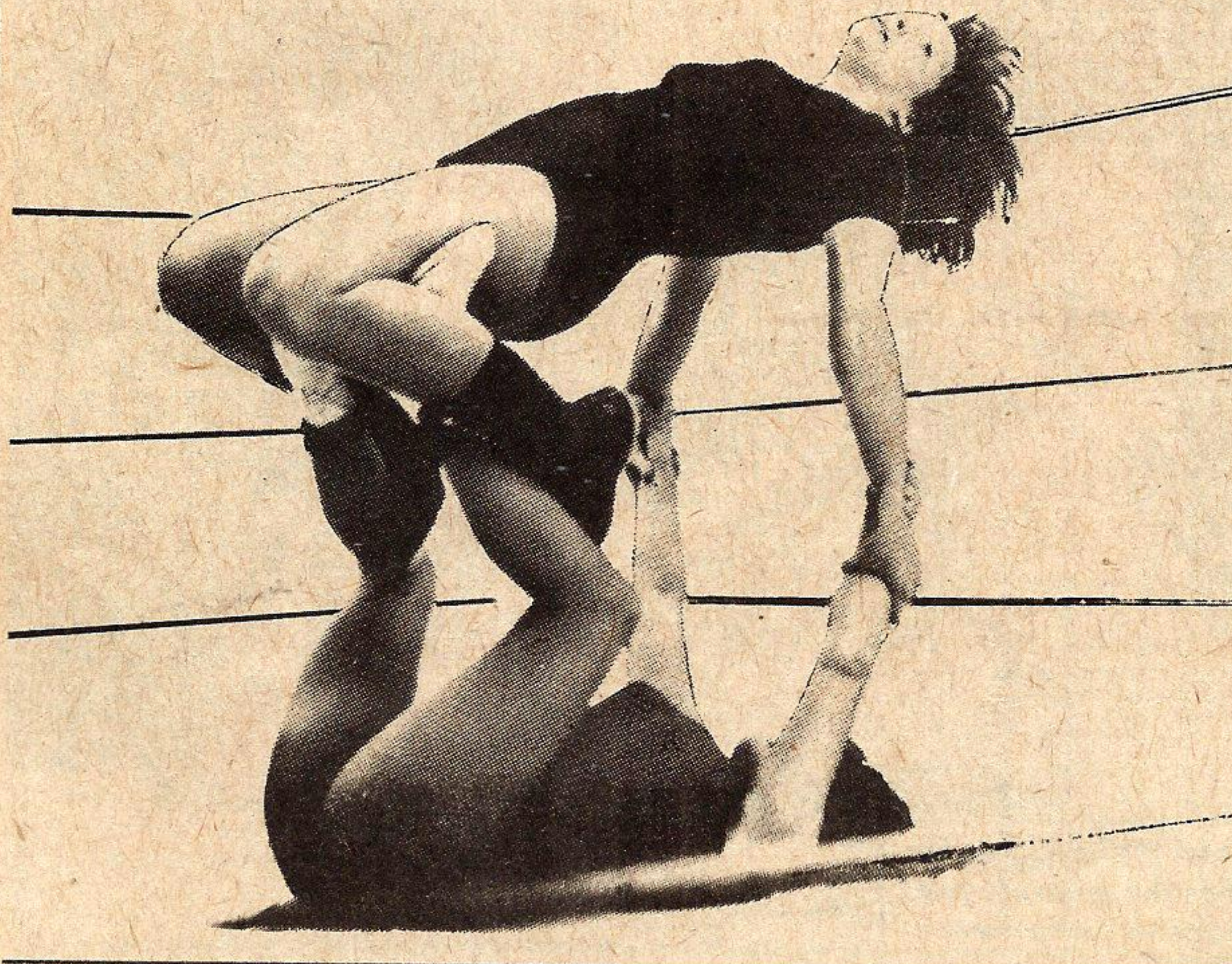
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Chief White Cloud quit Medical School For Mat Career

BY GENE GORDON

Indian wrestlers have always been popular with the paying public and one of the latest of his race to capture the hearts of American mat fans is the sensational Chief White Cloud.

Born in Colombia, South America, White Cloud spent the early part of his career in England, France, Belgium, Spain, Greece and Germany.

Since arriving in the United States, the Chief has campaigned in Georgia, Alabama, and Florida with side trips to Mexico.

White Cloud has been a professional wrestler for more than 10 years and is a powerfully built 225 pounder although standing only five feet, seven inches.

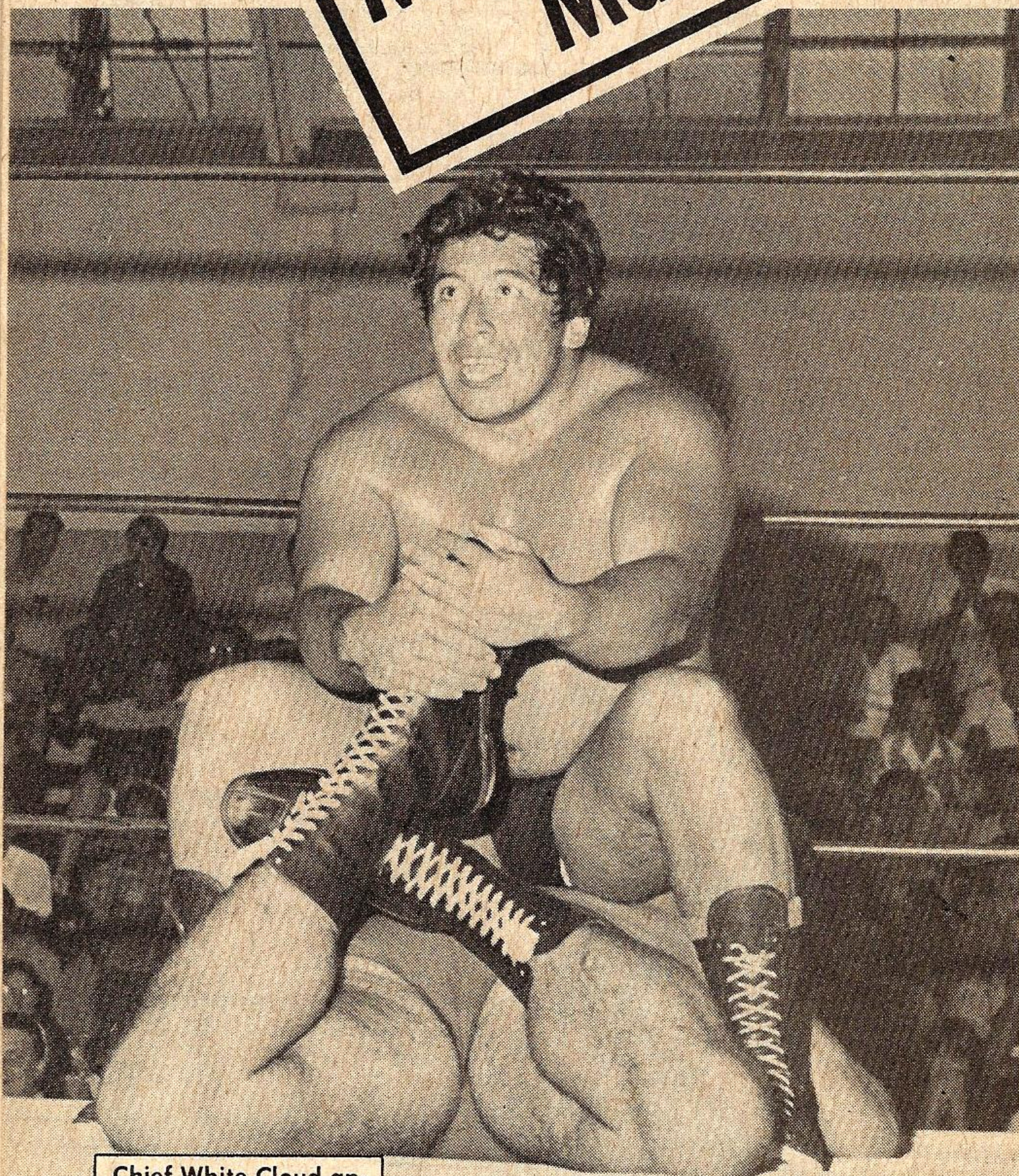
Although it has taken the Indian athlete a decade to reach the top, White Cloud is only 30 years old and has learned his lessons well.

The Chief cites the case of the highly popular Fred Blassie who needed 10 years to reach the superstar status and believes his own time is right on schedule.

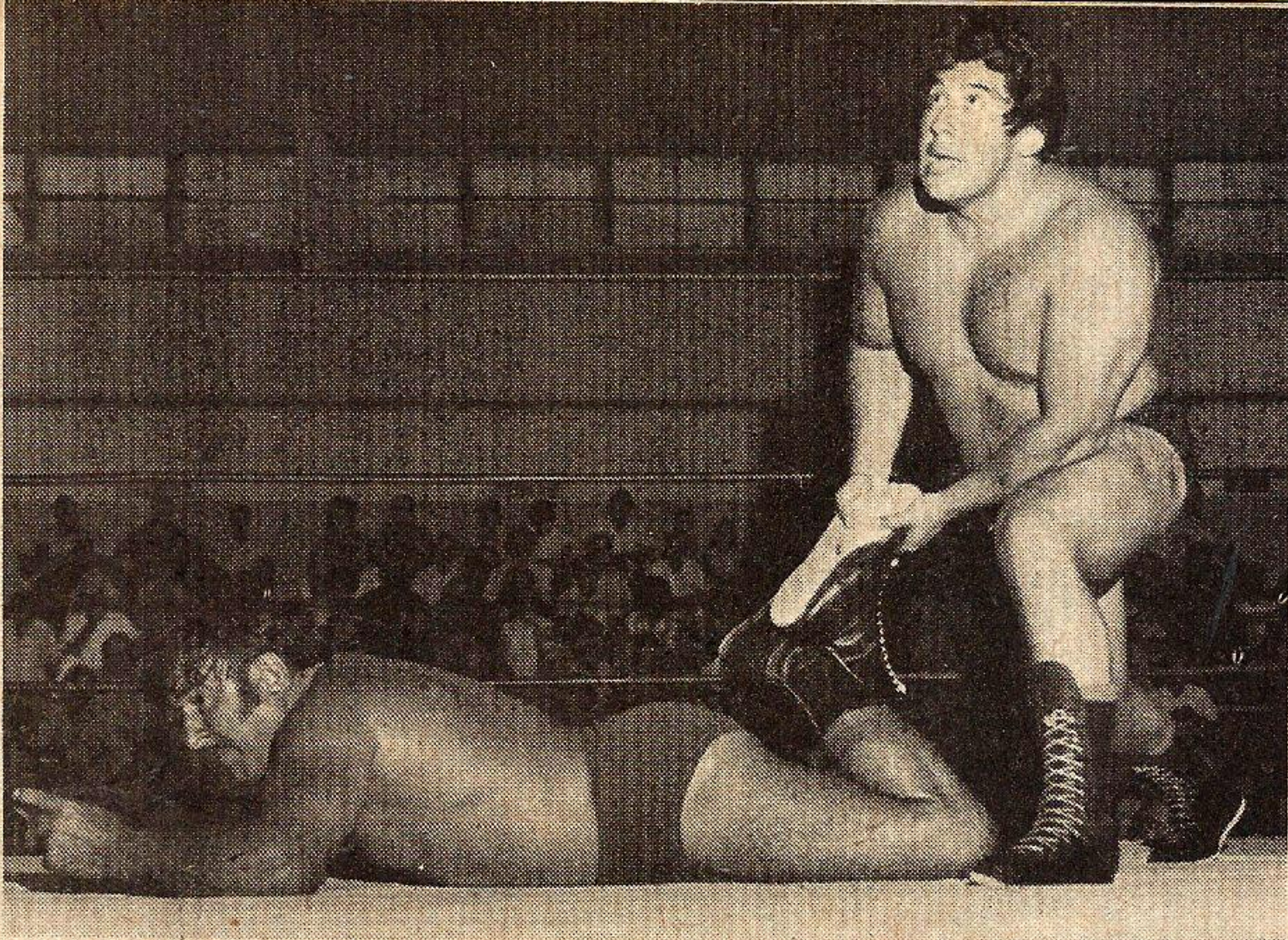
Starting at 17, White Cloud was trained by Bill Martinez, who is now a standout wrestler in Europe. When he was 23 years old, the Chief went on a European tour with Martinez and was highly successful.

White Cloud became a main eventer and wrestled in Royal Albert Hall for promoter Dale Martin.

Like the U.S. fans, English mat devotees have always been attracted to Indian grapplers and before White Cloud there were such standouts as Chief Thunderbird and Chief Little Wolf and Billy Two Rivers and later these men performed in New Zealand and Australia with equal success.



Chief White Cloud applies the pressure to El Gaucho in a recent match.



White Cloud uses all his strength on El Gaucho who is laboring under the pain of a toe hold.

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After finishing high school in South America, Chief White Cloud furthered his education at the University of Jauverino, majoring in general medicine, for three years.

The Chief wrestled professionally to help defray his expenses while going to college. However, the mat bug bit the Indian deep and he finally gave up his medical studies to devote full time to being a wrestler.

When the Chief got to England, an imaginative promoter paired him with Chief Thunder Cloud as a tag team.

"We were the toast of England, White Cloud told this reporter as he sipped a glass of wine while discussing his mat exploits.

"We wrestled before the elite of English society and there was one time when the Queen turned up in all her finery. Our toughest competition was a tag duo named The Hells Angels. We often wrestled them in Royal Albert Hall. I also won the Western European heavy-weight championship and met such standouts as Jackie Pallo, Mick McManus, Tibor Zakacka and Tony Marino."

White Cloud explained that his father died when he was very young

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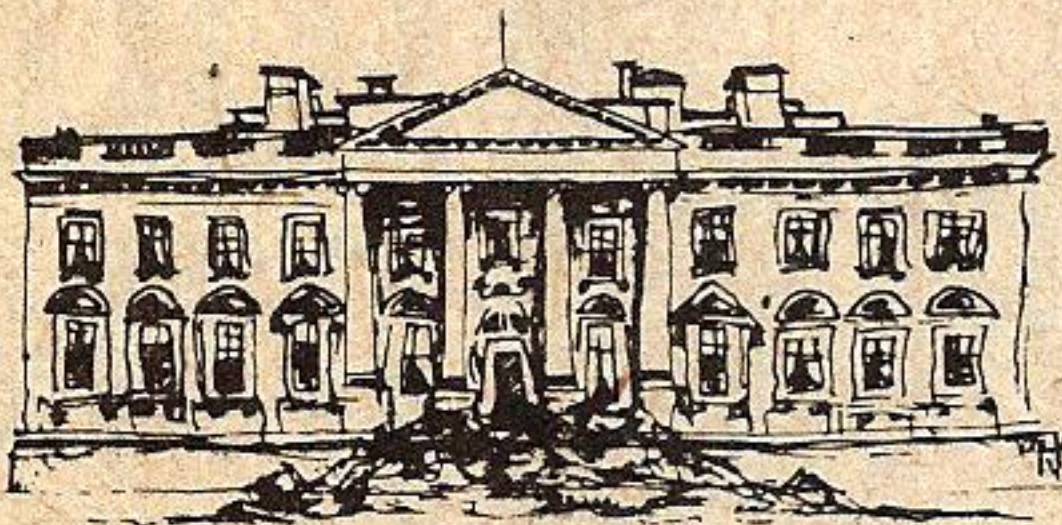
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and he remembers very little about him. However, his mother still is alive and hearty, now in her early 70's.

White Cloud is currently campaigning in the midwest and south but he plans to return to England later this year.

"I love the way of life in America and I consider myself fortunate to be here but the British promoters have made me an offer I just can't turn down."

The Chief is a stickler for physical condition and works out every day with weights when he doesn't have a match.

White Cloud placed fourth in the Mr. South America Body Building contest in 1968 against world class competition.

The mild mannered, soft-spoken Chief is popular everywhere he performs and the children tag after him when he arrives at the arena. White Cloud has many colorful customers depicting his nationality and he enters the ring for a match wearing a beautifully feathered headdress.

Chief White Cloud is a dapper dresser outside the ring and his jet black hair, brown eyes and olive complexion give him a ruggedly handsome appearance.

The Chief's favorite hold is the Indian death lock which he skillfully employs on his opponents as the coup de grace and his ambition is to win the world's junior heavy-weight championship which Danny Hodge recently lost to Ken Mantell in Jackson, Miss.

White Cloud is confident he can beat Mantell if he is given the chance and how can you argue with an Indian standout who has been successful everywhere he has appeared to date.

FOLLOWS OTHER INDIANS WHO ENGLISH LIKED

When the South American-born Indian enters the ring he is resplendent in full headdress but he doffs the feathers when he gets ready to go on the warpath.

RUNNING WITH WILD DOGS PUT PARK IN LES ROBERTS

By ETIENNE PILON

Once a jolly swagman. . . Most of us are familiar with the Australian song made popular during the second World War. It was called "Waltzing Matilda" and it was a bouncy catchy type of a song and it started out about, a jolly swagman.

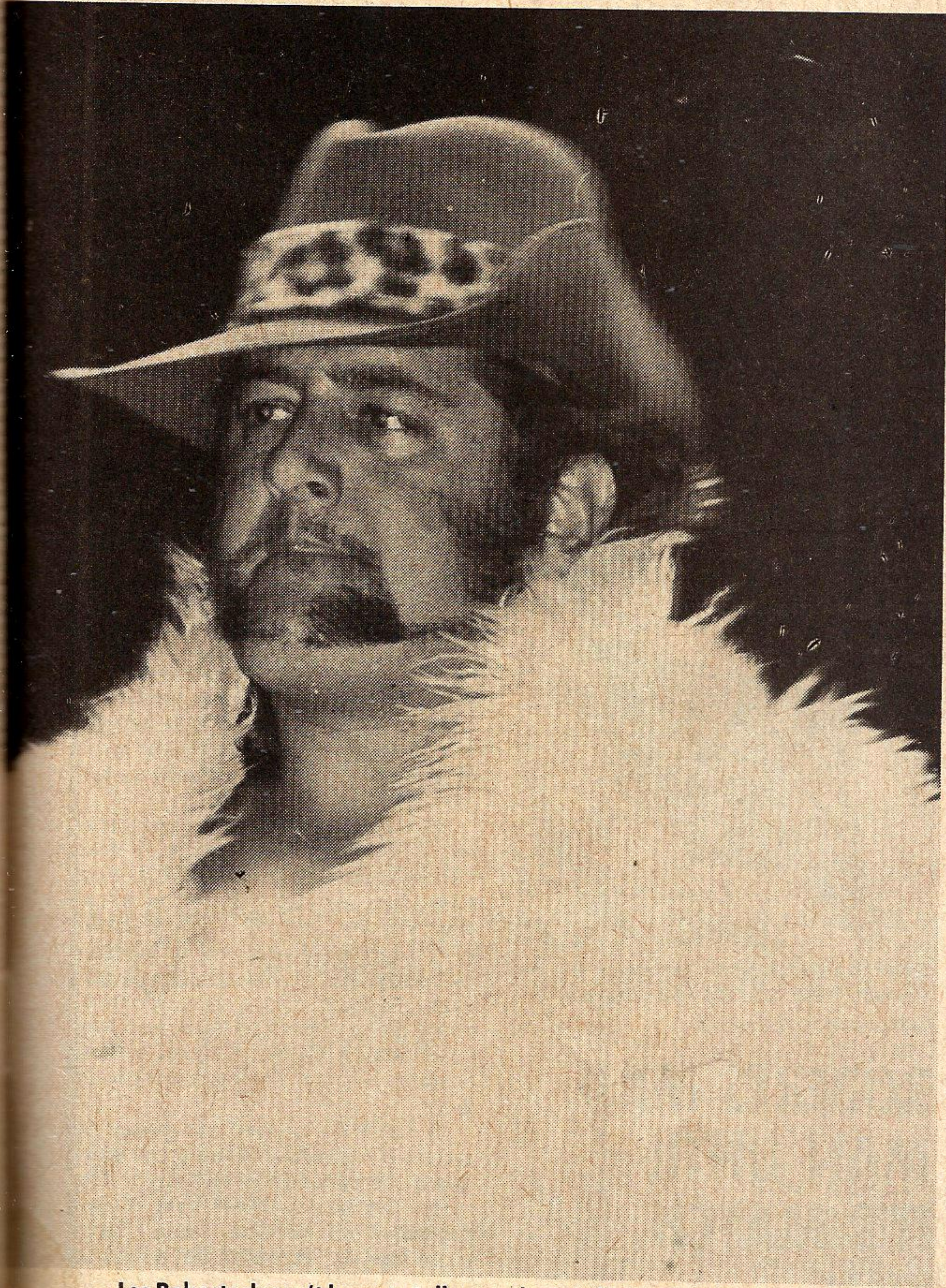
Well Dingo is neither. He is not a swagman, and by no stretch of the imagination could he be called jolly.

Maybe he wasn't always this way. There was a time when Les Roberts was not a vicious type person, but I would say it must have been when he was ten years old. Les was born and raised in the Australian outlands and was blessed with size and strength. A weight lifter from an early age, Roberts eventually built himself to a sturdy two hundred and eight pounds distributed over a six foot three inch frame.

I asked Les how he obtained the name of Dingo and this was his answer. "When I was growing up in the outlands there were wild dogs, and generally speaking people stay the hell away from them. Well I was different, from as long as I can remember I used to play with these dogs and I would run with them in the pack, and I even hunted with them. These dogs were vicious and they took what they wanted if you know what I mean."

Les showed up on the Aussie scene when he made a call to the Chevron Hotel in Sydney. Within a week he had arrived, showed his wares in a workout, signed a full year contract and was shipped off to New Zealand for some on the job training.

"I was big. I was strong. And not a day went by that I wasn't involved in a fight of some sort. They knew that at the wrestling office. The wrestlers that were going at each other in New Zealand were the rough brawler type and I guess they wanted to see what I could do



Les Roberts doesn't have to tell you where is from with this flashy attire.



When the Aussie came to the United States he got a big asset from wrestler-manager George Cannon.

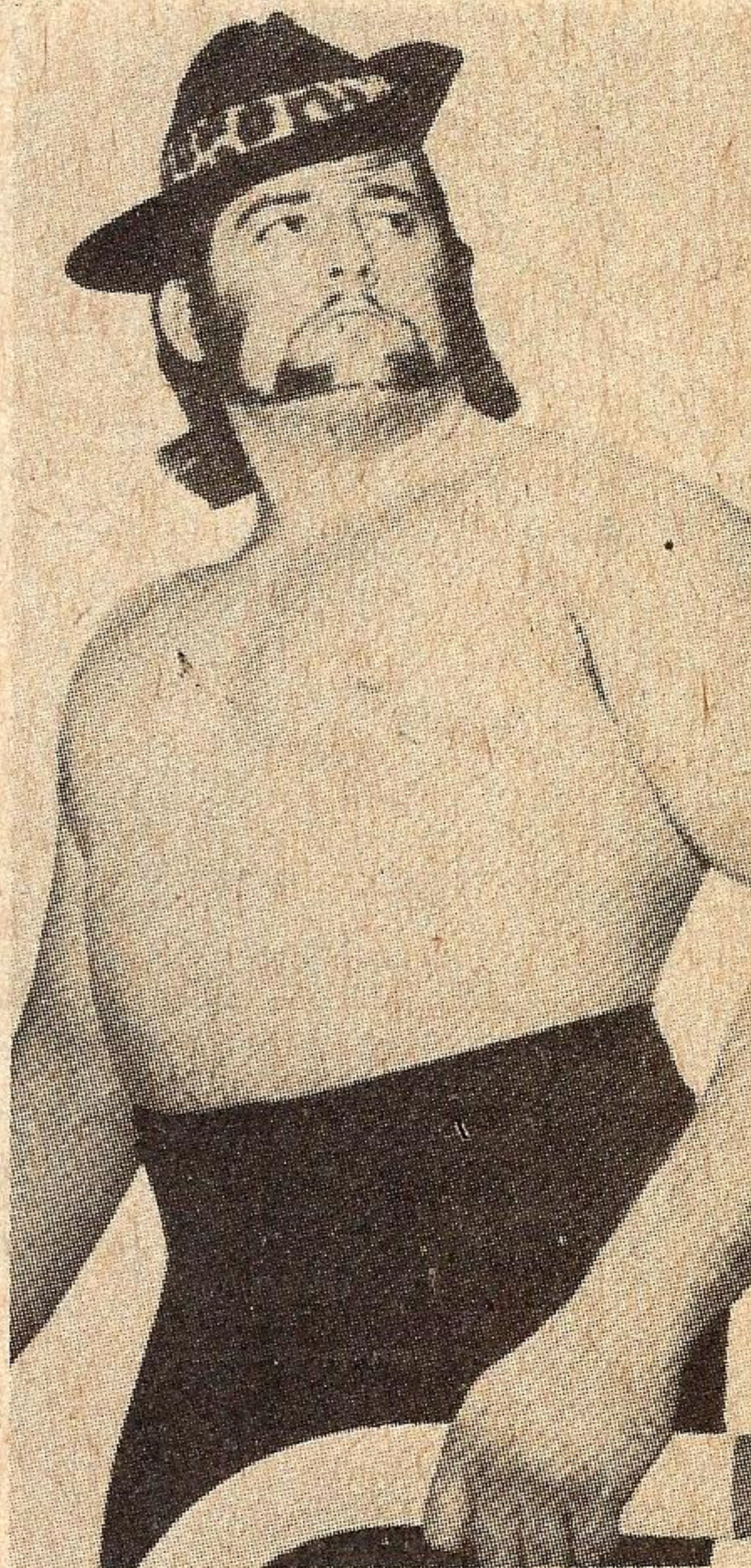
REALIZES MAT BASICS MUST FOR STARDOM

and what I could learn." Les stayed there for three months, then came back to Australia. Realizing this was not the way to go about it, he hunted up a couple of local pro's who worked out with him, to give him some basic knowledge of wrestling and its holds.

"It's stupid to think you can come into this game without any wrestling background. I always fancied myself as a tough guy and as long as you are up against somebody who doesn't know anything it's easy to hold your own. But who is kidding who. This is wrestling and you have to know how."

Les continued wrestling in Australia for another couple of years and gained a lot of good experience. Then it was time for travel and his first port of call was California. Now if you were to meet Les in the lobby of his hotel or maybe eating at his favorite restaurant, it would be hard to believe this is the same fellow you see in the ring.

A nocturnal person by nature, he is a quiet extremely calm fellow, who speaks in a very low deliberate voice. But when his match is over and he has showered and feels fresh, it's his hour to prowl and growl.



Roberts is a jaunty fellow who is usually mild outside the ring and a terror inside the ropes.

ROBERTS MILD MAN UNTIL IT'S MATCH TIME

When Roberts walked into the Olympia he was ushered into the office of Charley Moto and Jules Strongbow. His reputation as a wild brawler had proceeded him and they had wanted to have a talk.

After he left, they looked at each other and Moto said "I can't believe this is the Les Roberts we have heard about. Here we are expecting a killer and this fellow is as quiet a man as I have ever met."

Les soon changed the minds of all concerned when he got into the ring. After a lengthy stay in southern California he moved on to the east coast and then up into the eastern Canadian provinces. It seemed for a while as if he was drifting into limbo.

"I had been in wrestling about five years and in America for nearly two. I was winning my share of matches but I was not gaining any ground. I was in Montreal and I had heard about George Cannon who had brought the Kangaroos, two other Aussie boys to the world's title. I flew down to Detroit where Cannon was appearing that Saturday evening at Cobo Hall."

"After talking to him for five minutes I knew I was talking to a wrestling genius. Cannon explained that he was extremely busy with the champions and that travel left him little time to manage anybody else. I agreed to work on cards that he appeared if he could straighten out things."

"Cannon made all the arrangements and things started popping for Les. Cannon showed him how to hold back his vicious nature until the proper time. He showed him how to pace himself and when he heard about him growing up with dingos decided that it would be his name."

"It will be a great psychological edge" Cannon said. Now it was "Dingo-the sundowner." Cannon passed on his vast amount of wrestling knowledge to Dingo and finally it was time to return to Australia. From there Dingo makes engagements in Singapore, Burma, Hong Kong, New Zealand, and any point where he can fly and return back to Sydney within a couple of days.

"I have no immediate plans to return to America" Dingo the sundowner confided, "wrestling is the same the world over. You either have it or you haven't. I don't have to go half way around the world to prove myself. I can get all the action I want right here!"

OFFICIAL WRESTLING RATINGS

NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE CHAMPION JACK BRISCO

- 1 THE SHEIK
- 2 DORY FUNK
- 3 BOBO BRAZIL
- 4 TERRY FUNK
- 5 PAMPERO FIRPO
- 6 HARLEY RACE
- 7 TIM WOODS
- 8 DON GREENE
- 9 GENE KINISKI
- 10 JOHN TOLOS

AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION CHAMPION VERNE GAGNE

- 1 BILLY GRAHAM
- 2 CRUSHER LISOWSKI
- 3 BILLY ROBINSON
- 4 BARON VON RASCHKE
- 5 IVAN KOLOFF
- 6 RAY STEVENS
- 7 RED BASTIEN
- 8 NICK BOCKWINKLE
- 9 BOB GEIGLE
- 10 KEN PATERA



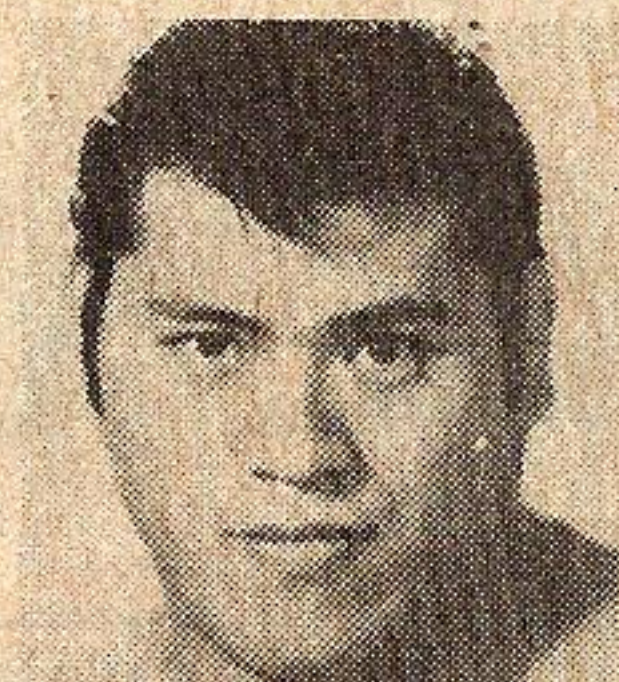
BRUNO SAMMARTINO

WORLD WIDE WRESTLING FEDERATION CHAMPION BRUNO SAMMARTINO

- 1 PEDRO MORALES
- 2 DON LEO JONATHAN
- 3 JAY STRONGBOW
- 4 GIANT ANDRE
- 5 PROF TANAKA
- 6 LARRY HENNIG
- 7 GEORGE STEELE
- 8 STAN STASIAK
- 9 JACK LANZA
- 10 DEAN HO

NATIONAL WRESTLING FEDERATION (Asia & North America) CHAMPION ANTONIO INOKI

- 1 JOHN POWERS
- 2 PAT PATTERSON
- 3 JEET SINGH
- 4 JOHN VALENTINE
- 5 SEIGI SAKAGUCHI
- 6 KARL GOTCH
- 7 JACQUES ROUGEAU
- 8 OX BAKER
- 9 LOU THESZ
- 10 GEORGE CANNON



ANTONIO INOKI

TAG TEAM RATINGS

- 1 VON HESS-VON SHOTZ
- 2 SAMMARTINO-BRUISER
- 3 CURRY-MARINO
- 4 ANDRE-STRONGBOW
- 5 TANAKA-FUJI
- 6 STEVENS-BOCKWINKLE
- 7 VALIANT BROS.
- 8 GOLIATH-GORDMAN
- 9 HAYES-KIRBY
- 10 THE KANGAROOS

MIDGETS

CHAMPION LORD LITTLE BROOK

- 1 SKY LOW LOW
- 2 LITTLE BEAVER
- 3 LITTLE BRUISER
- 4 LITTLE BRUTUS
- 5 FRENCHY LAMONT
- 6 HAITI KID
- 7 FARMER JEROME
- 8 JOEY RUSSELL
- 9 LITTLE TOKYO JOE
- 10 TOM POUCE



JACK BRISCO

MANAGERS

- 1 GEORGE CANNON
- 2 ABDULLAH FAROUK
- 3 LOU ALBANO
- 4 GARY HART
- 5 IVAN KALMIKOFF
- 6 BOBBY HEENAN
- 7 GEORGE HARRIS
- 8 HOMER O'DELL
- 9 SIR OLIVER HUMPERDINK
- 10 JIMMY GARVIN

WOMEN WRESTLERS

- 1 FABULOUS MOOLAH
- 2 VIVIAN VACHON
- 3 MARY JANE MULL
- 4 CORA COOMBS
- 5 KAY NOBLE
- 6 LUCILLE DUPRE
- 7 DONNA CHRISTANELLO
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FABULOUS MOOLAH

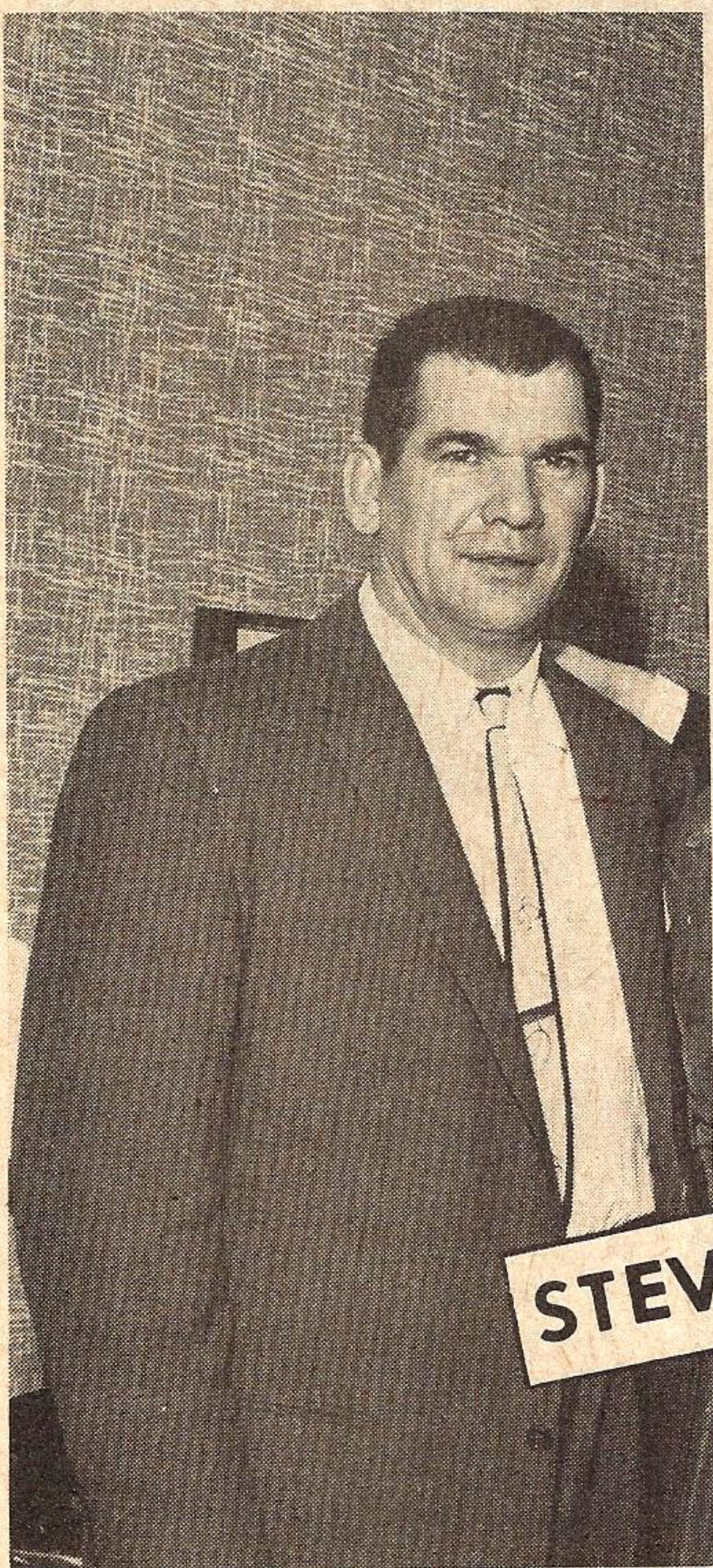
know your holds



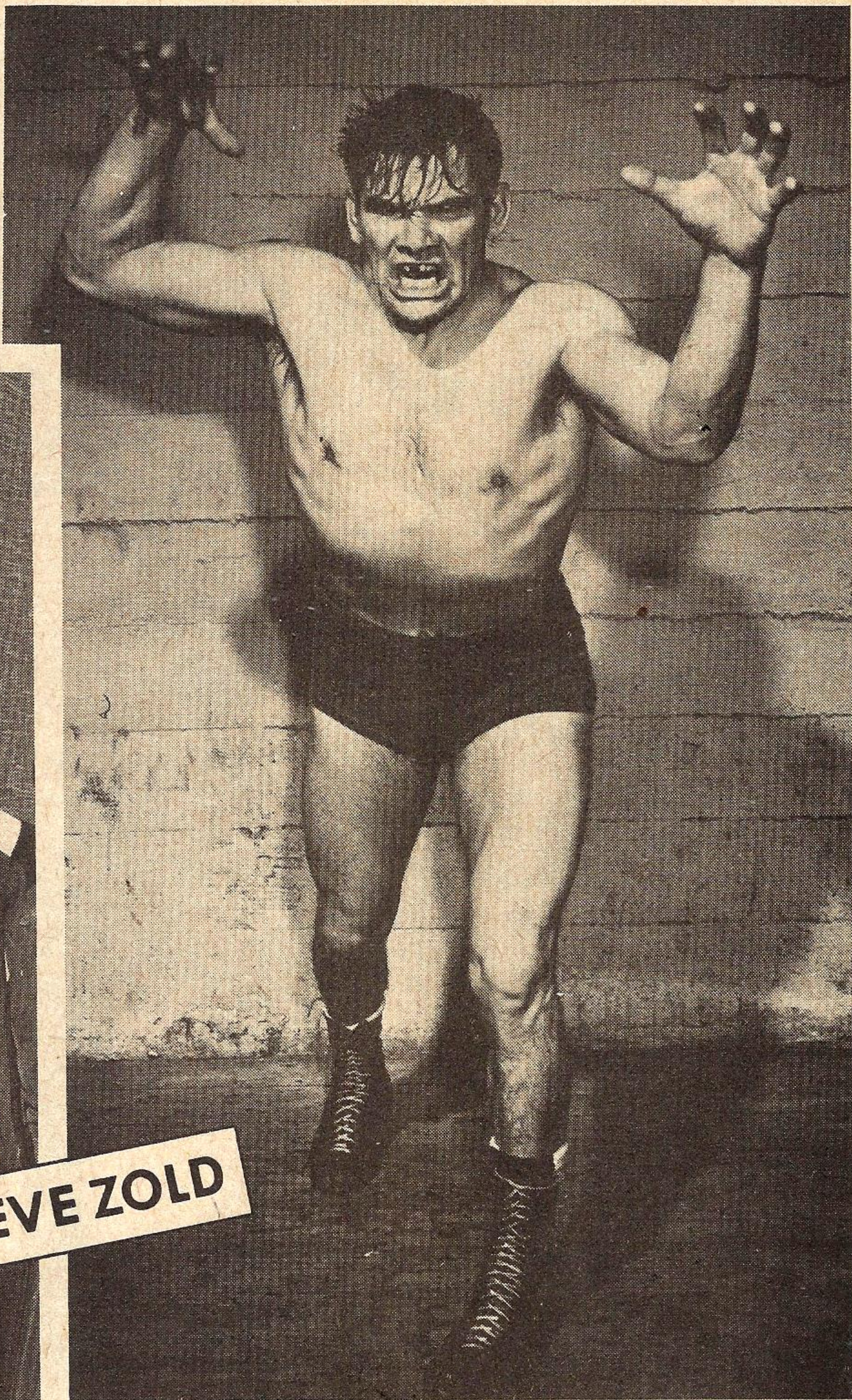
The Airplane Spin

One of the most spectacular and oldest holds in wrestling is the airplane spin. Although wrestlers have been known to survive such a tactic without losing a fall, the airplane spin, as demonstrated here by Tiger Jeet Singh, is one of the most effective offensive weapons in setting up an opponent for submission. The dizzying effects alone are almost enough to make an opponent easy prey but the hold also affords the attacking wrestler a chance to finish off his opponent with a vicious body slam. The airplane spin can also be converted into a back breaker which is virtually a cinch to assure victory or perhaps the dreaded pile driver — a hold which is now illegal in some states — a devastating tactic which has left many wrestlers with injured vertebrae and usually unconscious at the finish.

where is he today?



STEVE ZOLD



Guess who we ran into the other day? Remember Steve Zold? Well Steve is now the president of one of the largest roofing concerns in south west Ontario.

"True", Steve told me, "since I left the wrestling scene I have devoted more time to my business and today my partner and I enjoy a great deal of success."

Actually the reason Steve retired from the wrestling profession was that his business was just moving along at a so-so pace. Going straight into the pro ranks from a brilliant amateur career, Zold headed for Central and South America. An instant hit in Mexico he earned the nickname of El Diablo (the Devil).

Tall and rangy, his favorite holds were the body scissors and figure four leg locks. Holder of championship titles in Guatemala,

Honduras, El Salvador and Mexico, he remained in the Latin countries for two and a half years before returning to the North American wrestling scene.

"I had saved a few bucks so a friend and I opened a hardware store and a roofing company. For a long time the business remained at a status quo. I had three youngsters growing up and a lagging business. It was time to quit."

Today Steve is president of Riverside Roofing and works only when he feels the urge to get out of the office. Does he miss the sport? "I get down to see the odd match and every once in a while I referee a bout," Steve replied. With a lovely wife, three grown children and grand children, plus a thriving business, Steve has achieved the goal of all men...success!

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"I reduced my waist 3", increased my arms 1½ inches, chest 2½ inches. Powerex has been the greatest!" D. Owens, MA.

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"In the short time I have been using the Powerex, I have put over an inch on my arms, 2 inches on my chest, and gained 21 lbs.!" Scott Carterette, CA.

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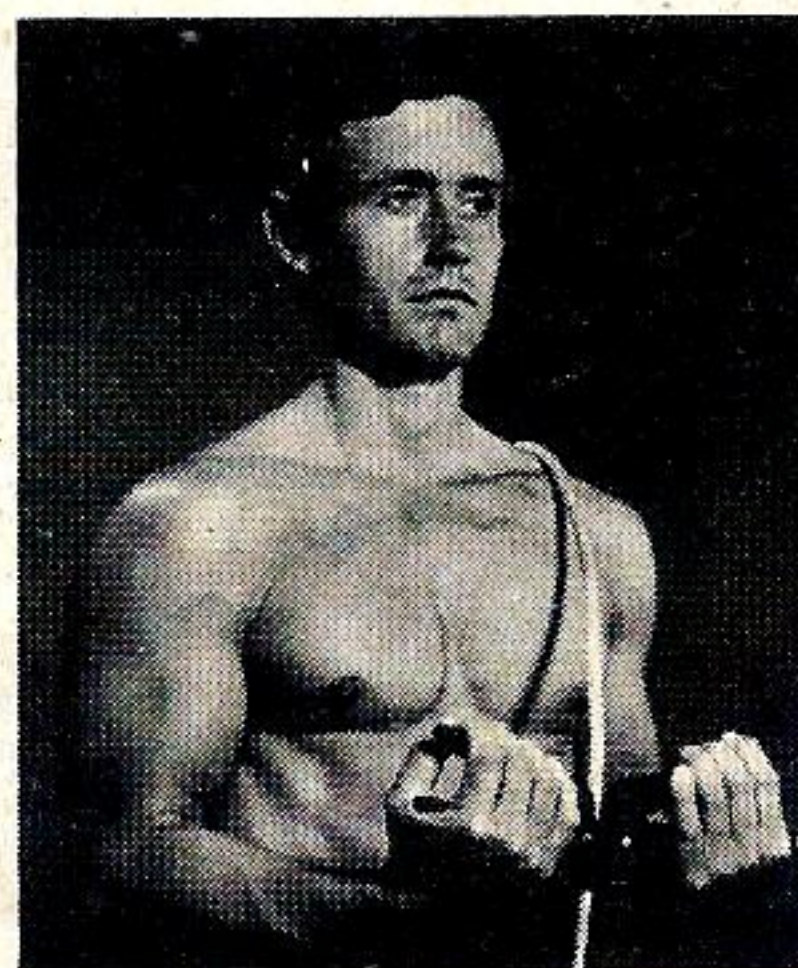
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